



# THE HOME MAGAZINE PAGE



## PLANNING YOUR OWN HOME

By BEATRICE FAIRFAX

### The Famous Author Applauds the Idea of Making a Home Nest Built on Mutual Love and Trust.

By Beatrice Fairfax  
Who Occupies a Unique Position in the Writing World as an Authority on Problems of Love and Marriage.

At this time of year when Dan Cupid is busy, with potent aid of Springtime, in joining happy hearts together, the thought of weddings looms large. And so practical considerations such as those expressed in the following letter may occur to more than one young couple who are planning an Easter or June wedding and a home nest of their own.

"Dear Miss Fairfax: I hope you will find it convenient to write an article regarding the following question—'I can hardly call it a letter.'"

"I've been married three years and have a baby girl of about two. I am living with my parents-in-law, as we have not been able to start housekeeping by ourselves. It's my intention, since the baby is older, to have some one care for her and take a position for a while, which will enable us to have our own home shortly."

"My mother-in-law still has an unmarried daughter of nineteen who is pretty and accomplished. She claims it is up to a girl's parents to furnish the home for the young couple, besides giving the daughter a dowry consisting of linens and wearing apparel."

"Do you think the bride's parents should furnish the home? Do you think her parents should go into debt to do such a thing? Does a young man think more of a girl if her parents furnish the home?"

"Please do not consider those parents who furnish homes because they are well able to and want to. Does a mother have to feel, because she is not in a position to furnish a home for her daughter, that the girl has no chance of making a good match?"

"Shouldn't a young man take a certain pride, when he is ready to get married, in furnishing his home?"

"My own parents are not in a position to furnish my home, but I'm not taking this attitude as a defense for them. I think a girl is happy in the thought that the man she is to marry is planning the home they are to share together."

"What I would most like is to have you tell us whether the girl's parents are supposed to furnish the home. What is your opinion of strong, healthy young men and women who permit their parents to do so, because the parents are financially able to, but because they are expected to, whether they can or not."

MARY.  
The questions you ask, Mary, might seem, on the surface, questions of custom and etiquette, rather than problems of the heart. But, looking a little deeper, they involve so much of mutual trust and responsibility that they should be considered in planning the home nest that they are well worthy of space in this column.

Certain old-world customs and conventions have never been recognized in democratic America. For instance, in certain countries a girl's parents furnish a dowry to induce a suitable husband to choose their daughter for his wife.

As far as I know, there has never been in this country any authority for the idea that a girl's parents should furnish her home when she marries any more than for the idea that they should select her husband—a convention also observed in certain countries abroad.

Young people, themselves, today decide all these points. For better or worse, young people select their mates, furnish their homes, plan their domestic regime without outside interference.

Of course, the wise girl doesn't marry in defiance of her parents. She bows to their experience and seeks their counsel. She waits for their consent to her marriage. But the young couple who expect the girl's parents to furnish home, trousseau, or hope chest, unless as voluntary gifts from well-to-do parents, are hopelessly behind the times and the spirit of this age.

The modern girl whose parents are in moderate circumstances unhesitatingly goes to work and earns her own trousseau and hope chest. She and her fiancé will, of course, co-operate, but usually the young man chooses to

pay for the greater part of the home furnishings. This, however, depends on circumstances and individual choice. Where there's love, there'll be no inharmonious and other lands.

You and your husband, Mary, are very sensible to plan a home nest of your own. Plan it together with mutual love and trust. Don't allow yourself to be hindered or depressed by outgrown ideas of other generations and other lands.

Plan the home, whether an elaborate house or model tenement, that you two can honestly, independently afford. By all means take a position for a while if this is practical in your case and so help your husband complete "your little bit of paradise."

No matter how humble it may be, your loving care can make it and keep it a home—a home where your friends will delight to visit you and where good humor, tolerance, affectionate co-operation and congenial companionship will perpetuate your mutual love and joy.

### SECRETS OF HEALTH

By Charles A. L. Reed, M. D.  
Former President of the American Medical Association.

#### The Art of Quitting.

YOU, like every other sensible person, have doubtless had times when you have resolved to quit something. These moments of resolution came to many people more frequently before Mr. Volstead made it less frequently necessary to "swear off."

But there are many things to quit besides the taking of hooch. Every habit that hurts is a habit to quit.

There is a difference between quitting and simply not doing something. You may be advised not to do something or reasonably resolve not to do it, but that is not quitting, for the simple reason that you never began.

When you once, by a single experience, do something that hurts or makes you unhappy, something too expensive or indigestible or immoral, you simply don't do it again—that is, if you are a person of good sense and with an ounce of resolution.

But when you have done it over and over again until the "action patterns" are established in your brain and you are in the clutch of habit, you have before you the problem of "quitting."

That is something different. The action patterns must be obliterated by a sort of reverse process—something that is not always accomplished in a moment or a day.

But it can never be accomplished unless the process is actually begun. The beginning generally follows that sort of self-examination that you make when you ask yourself, "Is this the best thing for me?" or "Is it fair to me or my neighbor?" and answer both questions with a "No."

Then, at that very instant, is the time for action. You say "I quit," and you fortify that resolution with every unit of will power of which you are capable.

In other words you throw your entire manhood or womanhood into the scale. If you do not throw your whole being into the determination you will fail.

And there is nothing more pathetic than broken resolution. I never could laugh at Rip Van Winkle when he took just one more drink to treat his last resolution. In the days of the elder Jefferson there were thousands of young men who said "Oh, I'll just take another to treat my last resolution." They failed to realize the profound philosophy of the whole situation—that it was really this weakness of will, this irresolution, that put poor, good-natured old Rip twenty years behind the procession.

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### Your Heart, How Big?

DRAWN BY NELL BRINKLEY



WHAT'S how much you can love! If you can love only clean little kids—then your heart isn't quite big enough to love the soiled ones too.

If you can't like an old dog that isn't a blue-ribbon winner just as heartily as you can the aristocrat—then, you see, you can't help it—but your heart just isn't quite big enough.

Doctor Dan is the only medic I know who uses a tape measure in his business. But that's how he does it. And if you find yourself going kinda stingy on lovin' and you feel kinda bitter and glum, and somebody has up and told you you don't LOVE enough, it is a good thing to go to Dan, ask him to measure you up and see if he can do something about it. If anybody can, that miracle-man is Dan.

The back pages of magazines tell a fellow

that it is easy for a woman to gain the charm of a beautiful skin—easy, to grow thin as a slyph, easy to learn to play the saxophone over-night, easy to astonish your friends with your poise and charm in two weeks, just nothing at all to dress like a Franch Marquise ten lessons, but alas—it doesn't say anywhere that it is easy to make a dried-up little crab-apple into a watermelon.

No place does it offer to stretch your heart while you wait. People can love just as much as their hearts will hold—no more. So, when you decide that somebody in your family isn't loving you as much as they ought to, or as much as you have seen somebody else love somebody, perhaps you had better think—

"Well—he (or she) is loving me just as big as his heart is. And maybe they think it's a whole LOT!"—NELL BRINKLEY.

### FASHION FADS AND FANCIES

By Mildred Ash

PROHIBITION can't prohibit Spring fashion's abundant use of that refreshing shade known as abeinth-green, whose color is almost as intoxicating as its name suggests. Popularized by that famous French stylist, Lanvin, it is becoming daily more favored in sports wear, as well as in evening costumes.

The Winning Hand that is the one winning fashionable approval is gloved in French kid gloves, with fancy embroidery and scalloped top. In slip-on, or, as it is frequently called "Blairitz" style, this type of glove is especially smart in beige shade and when worn with the navy or black tailleur frock or simple ensemble suit and beige kid street pumps to match.

Sailor Ties are always supposed to be most lax, for aren't sailors ever reputed to have a girl in every port? The sailor ties to which we refer have a much more concrete footing for they are one-eyelet pumps tied with grosgrain ribbon and have a small upright tongue. Of French kid, the smartest of these are in moonstone gray or blonde shades.

Modern Money Sharks are quite harmless affairs, for they are nothing more exacting than pouch bags or flat envelope purses of shark skin, with gold trimmings and large gold monogram.

Courting with Court Plaster patches used to be the style of coquettes of long ago. Since the revival of the period costume, with its billowy skirt and snugly draped bodice, many smart women, who affect the ultra-feminine in evening attire, are reverting to the use of those "beauty spots." Shaped in tiny hearts, diamonds, crescents and polka dots, they are extremely picturesque and most consistent with that quaint type of gown.

### FOXY GRANDPA'S STORIES

Registered U. S. Patent Office.



#### WHY CERTAIN LAPLANDERS ARE CONSIDERED RICH.

FAR up into the north we traveled—way up beyond Norway, Sweden and Finland, where Nurni, the great runner, came from. It was Lapland where we were headed for and after a long journey, we finally reached it.

"Well, what do you think of it?" I asked. "I love all the reindeers, Foxy Grandpa," said Bunny. "I wonder if Santa Claus gets his reindeers from up here."

"I wouldn't be a bit surprised," I answered. "Reindeers are very important to these Lapps."

"They couldn't get around much if they didn't have them. And do you notice that they don't have bits in their mouths—but that the reins are simply fastened on their horns and that they are guided by a light tap on the side with the reins?"

"Yes, and how strong they are—these reindeer. Just think! A full-grown reindeer can pull a load of 200 pounds and carry on his back 200 pounds. But they have a very humane law in this country. Only 150 pounds are allowed on a sledge and only 150 on a reindeer's back."

"Fat men are out of luck, if they like reindeer riding, aren't they?" asked Bobby. "Yes, and how strong they are of horses. Their milk is as rich as cow's milk. Their meat is de-

### THE GIRL WHO FAILED

AN ARTICLE EVERY MOTHER SHOULD READ.

#### Are You One of Those Parents Who Seek to Rob Your Child of All Individuality?

By Lucy Lowell.

SHE is twenty-five and wondering what life is all about. The mystery seems hard to get hold of, somehow. It shifts about so much, and things have such a way of changing appearance, according to where you happen to be at the moment.

For the last couple of years, or since she left home, she has felt a great deal like a boat adrift, always just about to make some safe haven but always washed out to sea again.

Everything was different back home. Of course the city was hardly more than a village compared with New York. Everybody knew everybody. Your friends were the folks you went to school with, and their standards were

### CORRECT MANNERS

By Mrs. Cornelius Beekman.

#### Paying for Another's Dinner.

DEAR MRS. BEECKMAN: I am a married woman and I went out to see my father at an infirmary and a young man asked to go with us. He is a friend of ours. When we got out there we decided to eat in a restaurant. The young man paid the bill. When we got outside I offered to pay him my share of it. He refused to take it and felt insulted. Was he right in refusing to take the money? My husband said he was wrong, that he should have taken the money. I say he was right.

A READER.

THERE was apparently no reason why the young man should not have been host on this occasion. He asked to go with you and your mother, and when a man makes this request he assumes more or less the position of host. I am sure that he had great pleasure in being the host to your mother and you, and especially on such a "family" errand; and I am sure also that he regretted your not accepting his friendliness in the same generous spirit in which he offered it. He probably felt "hurt"; I don't believe that he felt "insulted," for, of course, he realized that you did not mean to be unkind. "Insulted" is a pretty strong word, and is, as a matter of fact, too often used too loosely. Don't worry about his not accepting the money. Enjoy being his guest as much as he enjoyed being your host!

#### The "At Home" Invitation.

DEAR MRS. BEECKMAN: I should like to know if it would be in good taste to respond to an "at home" invitation from 3 until 4 o'clock?

DAILY READER.

IF you are planning to go to the reception, you leave your cards at the reception. If you are not going, you send your cards so that they arrive on the day that it is to be given. If, however, there is an "R.S.V.P." or a "Please reply" on the card you answer it in the usual formal, third person way, as you would any other formal invitation.

(Mrs. Beekman will be glad to answer questions on etiquette submitted by readers.)

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### THE RHYMING OPTIMIST

By Aline Michaels

#### Cloth of Gold.

QUEENS have loved it since long ago, prizing its changing sheen, watching the high lights come and go, watching the shades between. Pagant and pomp with the cloth of gold, pride and the cares of estate; courtiers wily and warriors bold, go with the fabric's weight. Here in the glow of its primrose light, plotting and counter-plot flourish again and life's price was light; such was the royal lot. Queens have loved it since long ago, yet, gleaming tatter still, cloth of gold where the daisies grow shines from a wind-swept hill. Cloth of gold in its beauty lies, flowers like a starry throng under the blue of the tranquil skies, waiting the inner's song. Queens have loved it since long ago, fabric that fits with a throne; but in the daisy fields men know joy like the inner's own.

### WHEN DID IT HAPPEN?

1. When was the American frigate United States built?
2. When was the battle of Zinta, between Austria and the Turks?
3. When did John Ruskin, English art critic, die?
4. When was the Faye Comet discovered?
5. When were the Memoirs of the Duc de Saint Simon published?

### HOUSEHOLD HINTS

If a candle is too large for the candlestick, the end should be held in hot water until it is soft. It can then be pressed into shape to fit the hole, and there will be no waste of wax, as in the case of shaving slices off the end.

