

The Woman's Page

A Woman's Place Is Where She Wants It

By Margaret Moore Marshall
If we ever start a woman movement it's going to have this slogan: "As you please." Being an individualist, we loathe regimentation. (Bobbed hair bore witness to the effect of the New mass formation.) When everybody was shouting that no married woman should earn money outside her home and that no mother should leave her children for no other thing more vital than an office party, we wrote our typewriters ribbon ragged in defense of our side jobs and busy schedules for wives and mothers. But the present attempt in certain quarters to force each woman out of her home, even when she wants to work in it, seems to us equally unwise and unbecoming.

Our group has its own problems. The biggest is succinctly expressed by one of the Survey Graphic's most intelligent contributors, Katherine S. Angelo: Writing of how she managed to be a mother and an editor of the New Yorker, she phrases the question which haunts many another: "What should I do?" Another professional worker and mother of young children: "Am I always there when they need me?" The question, we believe, may be answered satisfactorily to the children, if a woman has the intelligence, the co-operative husband and the kind of work that will allow her to make proper adjustments. The point is that the children's interests should be protected. Another point is that the mother's right to choose her field of work should be maintained. If a mother is working outside the home told the Survey Graphic: "I got no kick out of cooking and sewing. I'd rather do so in my own way as another job. But—women don't feel simply superior to women who are good housewives. They're serving mothers, a warm and lovely force in the homes from which they choose to radiate their graces and lives."

When economic law drives her out, it's a very great pity. When left-wing feminists try to shame her out, they could be in a better business. After all, a woman has a right to her place in her home as well as in the office or mill. We come to the defense of the domestic type, after reading the many-sided, highly interesting discussion of "Woman's Place" in the current issue of the Survey Graphic from which you may learn if you didn't know before, that in the last 20 years the proportion of married women who have increased 100 per cent, that one out of every four working women is married and living with her husband, that most of these women are native-born and over 25, the large proportion of them have children.

And the children suffer, there is plenty of evidence in the Survey Graphic to prove that. They play in the streets, except during the coldest weather. The mothers with whom they are left forget to feed them. Their mother sees that they are happy in the evenings. They are ill and their mother is not there. They're being punished and their mother's anger is not there. They're being punished and their mother's anger is not there. They're being punished and their mother's anger is not there.

The mothers, who are not always happy, they work because they have to work. The Survey Graphic tells of Lucy, who "really likes to potter around the house. She is never happier than in the moment when she places a superlatively roasted chicken in an oven, or buttons one of her offspring into a new, home-made dress. She would rather be at home," but her salary as a stenographer is needed to pay doctor's bills for the children.

We say it's a great pity that such a mother as Lucy cannot make her place in the home keeping her work. Yet Alice Heat Parsons, in the same magazine, changes the home woman's value as a productive worker or as a mother. She says: "Intelligent parenthood is an expert affair, requiring community cooperation, and the home-staying mother is as well fitted to make little contribution to it. If she is exclusively a mother she is unfitted to train her children to meet the thousand difficulties of the outside world. Her economic partion too often involves a loss of self-respect or discontent."

It seems to us perfect nonsense to talk about the "economic parenthood" of a woman who is cooking, sewing, washing and caring for one or more small children. Heaven knows it's a job and a half, particularly in the small communities and middle-sized towns, where servants are almost unobtainable, really good and cheap food must be prepared at home, and there are no nursery schools!

A home and the children in it will give plenty of "productive work" to any woman. If it's the work she wants, why shouldn't she be allowed to choose it, without sneers from those of us who prefer work of another kind?

Helps Girls



Dr. Emily T. Burr.
The Vocational Adjustment Bureau of New York City, of which Dr. Emily T. Burr is director, handled the cases of 1,300 girls last year. Its job is placing boys and girls in jobs they can fill. Dr. Burr is a graduate of Barnard College with a Ph. D. from Columbia.

Fashions Here and There

PARIS—Simple forms and subdued colors characterize the half-season styles now being shown at Paris. For morning dresses light flannels, fine jerseys, plain satin and crepe de Chine, in various shades of beige and grey, are the materials most employed. Particularly attractive afternoon dresses are made in black, brown, green and grey satins with long sleeves, tight and slightly ruffled at the wrists and necks cut to the base of the throat finished off by a little turned-back collar and bow and end tie, or a lace jabot. The skirts, which are usually hand-placed, are made of the shiny side of the satin, and the tops of the dail side, a leather belt being the only trimming.

NEW YORK—Taffeta pajamas have come into notice for lounge robes. They at least have this advantage: they may make them conform or contrast effectively with the upholstery of the furniture on which the lounge is done. The trousers are tight from the knee down and fastened with a row of small buttons close together. The jackets are almost knee-length and have a wide flouncing flare from hip to hem.

LONDON—The spring style hats reached London before the winter snows. The new model of straw maintains the vogue of the high crown, but hard lines are eliminated by the clever use of fancy effects in straw and the addition of taffeta and ribbon. Brims are more pronounced, whether they drop prettily down the face or turn up marine fashion.

NEW YORK—The snake charmer nowadays has a double job. Not only is it probable to entice serpents in to the net but it is even more advantageous to notice the feminine contingent in the serpent mound. The latest exploitation of serpent skin consists of "snakes" for flowers and bouquets made of myrtles or rats, the snake skin, which adorn the fur and cloth coats at present season.

LONDON—Snuff taking is again popular in England society, although it has not yet reached the open-and-above-board stages. "Persons of a high social standing are now our most regular customers," said the manager of West End snuff manufacturing firm. "They are still shy of performing public but very soon some strong-minded person of note will flaunt his snuff box in his club."

PARIS—Rue de la Paix millinery in an effort to get away from the too simple high-crowned coiffe hats, are producing turbans with draperies arranged to suit the wearer's face made of fur, ribbon, lace, satin, crepe de chine, velvet or fur. The color is chosen to go with the coat or costume. With a fur coat the hat may match the dress, or with a cloth coat over a silk dress the hat matches the coat.

NEW YORK—Fur coats are in one of their periodic bargain sales periods. Despite this fact few women seem to save much money at these sales. In most instances they buy more expensive qualities than they expected to purchase so that the amount of money expended is about the same. Ermine, especially of the oyster gray shade,

continues high and so do mink, sable broadtail, chevreilla and Persian lamb.

LONDON—Elbows are again fashionable. A considerable number of new coats have buttoned elbows and the attention given the elbow trimmings by dress designers, in all sort of garments, is a leading point of the latest fashion.

NEW YORK—Alligator skins take a long time to wear out. In comparison of the pressed trend of fashion in footwear, there is a shortage of these leathers, and alligator—real alligator—their fur is being used more for trimmings than for whole shoes. Many walking and semipastor shoes are trimmed with lizard skin in matching and contrasting colors.

LONDON—English women are now carrying their wafles on the backs of their chicest lighters. Some keep tiny traveling clocks in their hand bags while a few stick to the old, reliable wrist watch. The newer ones are done in beautiful enamel and on the face is a small square in which the time is shown in hours, minutes and seconds in luminous figures.

PARIS—Salots are the latest fad of the ultra-fashionable Parisiennes. Yet the luminescent footwear now universally abandoned even by the peasants, but elegant affairs in black bordered with red, ornamented with buckles and fitted with Louis XV heels. The general effect is elegant and pleasing.

NEW YORK—Dresses today are in the same position as Mr. Kipling's "sheep" who "were reduced to the afterglow." This is especially noticeable in satin and chiffon evening frocks. When these are the "Charleston knockers," made to a price of \$50 they of satin or crepe de chine. These are gowns. If they fall below that figure they are pressed. The elastic which covers the knee and gives firm support, have dressing wraps, especially those of the metallic shades.

Girl Obtains Education in Novel Way



Miss Wauketa Crow, a student at the University of Wichita, Wichita, Kas., is making her face and legs pay for her education. Her picture appears in advertisements of popular soft drinks and her legs are used in advertising hosiery and shoes. Miss Crow is an artist in a commercial advertising company at Wichita when she is not attending school.

LONDON—Feminine fancy leans more and more to the "three-chick" and the latest addition to the well-stocked lingerie drawer of the English women are the "Charleston knockers," made to a price of \$50 they of satin or crepe de chine. These are gowns. If they fall below that figure they are pressed. The elastic which covers the knee and gives firm support, have dressing wraps, especially those of the metallic shades.

Gray shoes will be as popular for spring as the beige, 'tis said.

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Formality

By LUCY LOWELL
Formality, in a reasonable degree, is a very fine thing to cultivate. For many problems are those brought about by the long and close contact of association, friendship or relationship; contacts so intimate that the formality which helps along equitable terms with more casual acquaintances slips away.

And with it goes much of the fine courtesy and the delicate reserve that are the safeguards of all human contacts. Very few there are with whom you can afford to put inside all formality—with whom you can be quite sure of understanding. For complete understanding is based on an open mind and entire sincerity. And while that combination does exist, it is a rare thing. Perhaps you will say that formality destroys spontaneity and gives one the appearance of being cold and unfriendly.

But it need not. Formality must not be confused with shyness which does act as a brake upon good humor and good manners.

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LIVING AND LOVING

BY FLORENCE SMITH VINCENT
SALTED BUTTER

If all men were of the same opinion life would be as savored. What subject continues to be highly interesting after it has been discussed to provoke a "for and again?" Now there's the married woman who is not so sure of her former self in name only—a much mooted question? There's a story told of a certain English lady who although only a few years past fifty wore her glossy hair, guileless and bright, and could both a cap of lace.

But why? queried an interested observer. "You are in your prime and yet you affect the coiffure of a really aged dame." The lady smiled and nodded in the direction of her husband standing in a far corner of the room.

"I wear it so because of him," said she. "You see, my husband is a great deal older than I am and I think, under such circumstances, it is more fitting." Can there be a more beautiful illustration of tact and consideration? These and these only were responsible, for the woman was an individualist. Strong was her spirit of independence, she had brooked no attempt to weaken it. She considered it the maintenance right of woman to be herself, to think and act as innate truth dictated.

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Submissive to no will but of her own free wish did she detract from her own charm, her heritage because love's alchemy had transformed her lord's content into her pleasure, had sharpened her intention to realize that had she flaunted, however unconsciously, the years between, her world would have been hurt by society's unfitted eyebrow.

A striking criticism was once uttered by no less a personage than the late Amy Lowell in an address to the Lucy Stoners. "Women who insist upon keeping their own names after marriage are suffering from egomania. I do not believe in a people

turning their ego into the most important part of their life, if any human being does not care more for something in this life than he does for his own individuality, he is no good and the sooner his name is lost the better. All you have to do is to do something, and you will be known, whether you have a name or not. I do not approve of shouting your individuality or carrying it on a banner. Yet I am an individualist."

We are not trying to prove any point. We are entirely neutral. We simply think the contrast in woman's ways of thinking is food for reflection.

HOUSEHOLD ACCOUNTS
Do you keep a household account? The housewife who keeps accurate household accounts not only keeps posted on the financial condition, but it enables her to regulate the relative proportions of the essential foods which are the foods of the day, that is, meat, eggs and cheese; the work foods, as milk, starch and sugar and the cereals, like butter, fat and cereals.

So start 1927 right by keeping a household account and see how near you are coming to the amount of food values your family require. This will depend largely upon their occupation. For instance, if the members of the family are engaged in brain work, your meat, fish and dairy columns should make a good showing. If muscular work is the daily family routine, fish and carbohydrate must supplement the proteins that are necessary for the brain workers and this will boost the columns of grocery, milk and vegetables.

Tora Tora of the Royal theater in Stockholm claims the shortest name of any famous actress. She is a great favorite with the royal family of Sweden.

Miss Lillian Braun of Kansas City gave up a career as a concert soprano to establish a bakery. Loneliness and home-sickness while on tour is her reason.

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