

From the Women's Angle

What I want to know is, is there a Mrs. Finnegan? If so, has she ever been slapped?

I'll say this much for Judge Philip J. Finnegan of Chicago, if he's a married man, he's a judge who upholds wife-slapping, and who is quoted as saying, "If more wives were slapped there would be fewer divorces."

Then he probably went home and slapped his own wife to prove it could be done—if he has a wife. And that's a possibility I'd suggest all married men investigate before they take his advice.

On the other hand, if Judge Finnegan is a bachelor, but he's still a bachelor. Don't forget that! Let him give his advice about wife-slapping as a means of preventing divorce, to other bachelors. Who knows better how wives should be treated? Bachelors' wives, like spinsters' children, can take anything.

On the other hand, if Judge Finnegan is a benedict, he belongs domestically in either one of two major classifications. He is either a man who slaps his wife, or a man who does not slap his wife.

Does he—Dogenes be praised! He's an honest man. He admits it. Come right out in the paper and tell the boys it's the thing to do. That's courage. Then he goes home and if Mrs. Finnegan doesn't like it—Wham!—one strike on Finnegan.

If he belongs in the latter classification, and is a married man who does not slap his wife, he has something to explain. Why doesn't he slap his wife? He preaches it as a justifiable husbandly act, why doesn't he practice it? Mrs. Finnegan doesn't like to be slapped? But why should that matter? Why not slap her anyway, she won't slap back—or will she?

And so before I commit myself I think the judge is right or wrong. I'd really have to know—is there a Mrs. Finnegan?—If so, has she ever been slapped?

Grandmother writes a good letter, and she writes often, too. The combination is so desirable, we suspect that Grandmother will earn her Heavenly crown on that score if no other.

She is cheerful. She wouldn't dream of beginning like that famous missive: "The children are sick and the dog is lost. The cold wave has begun and we're out of coal. I have a toothache and I think they're going to raise the rent."

Instead, she is light and airy, and she begins with a hilarious account of youngest grandson's first date, or how they came back from a week-end visit to find their old cat had returned with six children. At the very end, perhaps, she may mention that her arthritis cropped up again last week, or she's just getting over a cold. But not often.

She is generous with her time. Grandmother's letters often arrive with extra folds which crowd into the margins, so you can hardly tell where the letter ends and the postscript begins. She will hunt for hours for a Grandmother clipping from last week's paper—the very recipe she was telling you about! She draws weird pictures with her stiff little fingers, because she knows her gravity-defying illustrations make you laugh. She never breaks off abruptly, scribbling that she simply MUST stop now.

She is newy. If it's the new house, she takes you on a personally-conducted tour from cellar to attic. The letters which other relatives and friends have written are read, and she tells the best items from one to send along. She never forgets to tell you that Aunt Harriet's dahlias won two ribbons at the county fair, or that Cousin Alfred has a new job in Boston, and she is going to move down there with his wife and the babies. (She usually adds that the new baby weighs 18 pounds now and has curly golden hair, just like his father.)

Yes, Grandmother's letters are good. By means of them, she spins new strands, to strengthen the family ties. A little humor... a little news... a few remarks addressed to the rule of the business man, to "get into the envelope and seal the flap," Grandmother will keep herself forever alive and dear in our hearts.

Sometime ago I was a member of a party that late in the evening grew very philosophical and a cup of coffee, at which time a wise young man remarked, "It is not what you do in life that is important. If your goal is a high one, even though you never actually reach what you set out to accomplish, you can consider your life a success."

This statement immediately set off a train of thought which has been forming in the back of my mind for some time and which, up to that particular moment, had been in dormant state. The entire thought process centered about the theory that probably one of the fundamental difficulties with the world today is that too many of us never actually know our purpose in life.

We are content to work at dull jobs which we don't understand; we are content to live from day to day and hope desperately that the vague "something" we are seeking will in some miraculous way appear before us.

This is, of course, an acute form of laziness. It is much easier to live for the day at hand and let the future take care of itself. It takes no great mental stability to close your eyes and merely drift, at the same time murmuring a prayer that our "break" will come to us of its own accord. Needless to say it won't come as long as we sit about listlessly with folded hands. The only "breaks" that will ever come to us are those which, in some manner or another, we have earned.

And that, I suppose is the reason that the young man was so earnestly propounding his theory for success. His point was that if we have an aim in life, despite the fact that it probably is unattainable, it will spur us to accomplish things we never dreamed of.

It is a good idea; it may work. However, on second thought I think I will let the serious young man try it first. If the theory works for him with any measure of success I may give it a whirl.

Barzun PTA Plans Fathers' Night Program

A special Fathers' Night program has been planned for the next meeting of the Barzun School Parent Teacher Association, to be held Thursday evening, Feb. 16.

The organization's annual cafeteria dinner will be served from six to 8:30 p. m., to open the evening's activities. A program will follow.

John S. Sullivan, a member of the faculty at Wayne University, will appear as principal speaker. His topic will be "Adolescence in a Modern World."

Victor H. Ulrich will also appear on the program, in a group of vocal selections. Co-chairmen of the dinner and meeting are Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Atkins Jr.

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FOLK DANCING ENTHUSIASTS SET LECTURE DATE

Lovers of folk-lore as depicted in music and figures from English and American country dances, have marked the evening of Saturday, March 11, as a red letter date in the social calendar. At that time, Douglas Kennedy of London, Eng., recognized as a leading authority on country dancing and music, will give a lecture at the Community House, Enthusiasts in Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills will act as patrons for the occasion.

Invitations to the lecture will be issued by the sponsors, the list of which includes Mr. and Mrs. Henry Scripps Booth, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Brandt, Mr. and Mrs. George R. Averill, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Diggins Farrar, Mr. and Mrs. George T. Hendrie, Dr. John B. Hassbecker, John J. Gaffill, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas B. Kingsmith, Miss Betty Kingsmith, Mr. and Mrs. William G. Lerchen, Miss Cora Myers, Mrs. Helen Waggoner, Mrs. Helen Goddon R. Pennington, Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. Shuell, Mr. and Mrs. George N. Sieger, Mrs. Dorothy Kemp Roosevelt, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Thoon and Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Thompson.

Mr. Kennedy is director and president of the English Folk Dance and Song Society, succeeding the famous English musician, Cecil Sharp. A popular lecturer, he illustrates his remarks with appropriate music. He was a member of the original teaching staff of Mr. Sharp's school at Stratford-on-Avon, following four years of service in the war.

Delegates Attend Lansing Meeting

A number of prominent figures in Parent Teacher Association and educational circles in Birmingham and Lansing, Mich., met Wednesday, to attend the Citizens' Conference on Education, held at the famous Lansing Hotel.

Presided over by Dr. Eugene Elliott, state superintendent of public instruction.

Among those who attended from Birmingham were Howard D. Crull, superintendent of schools; Ray H. Bechtold, principal of Baldwin High School; Robert D. Lynd, Y. M. C. A. secretary; Mrs. John B. Basso, Mrs. W. F. Tighe, Mrs. Arthur L. Gennung, Mrs. Roy B. McCutcheon, Mrs. W. C. Casson, Mrs. Maiken H. Stevens and Mrs. Harold H. Corson. The American Association of University Women was also invited to send delegates.

BIRTHS

Dr. and Mrs. Edwin W. Deer, of Detroit, formerly of Birmingham, are receiving congratulations on the birth of a son, Edwin William, Jr., on Feb. 3. Mrs. Deer before her marriage was Miss Muriel Farrell of Minnesota.

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Fred H. Rollins Jr. Takes Detroit Bride At Impressive Rites Tuesday Evening

Marie Elizabeth Lowery, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. P. C. Lowery of Seneca avenue in Indian Village, became the bride of Fred H. Rollins Jr. on Tuesday evening, Feb. 7, at St. Paul's Cathedral, in Detroit. The very Rev. Kirk B. O'Farrell officiated at the ceremony.

The bridal party formed before an altar banked with white spring blossoms and disposals of cybium fern, to make one of the loveliest weddings of the season.

The bride chose a Chanel model of ivory satin, made with a sweet-heart neckline. Panels of Chantilly lace swept from the shoulders to the end of her four-yard train. Clouds of imported bridal illusion fashioned her two-tiered tulle veil, which fell beyond the train from a halo of orange blossoms. She carried a heart-shaped bouquet of valley lilies and gardenias.

Five Attend Bride Miss Alice Horn of Detroit attended the bride as maid of honor, wearing a graceful chiffon gown in the new amaranth shade. In place of a hat, she wore an English nursemaid's veil, held in place with tiny ostrich tips, all in a matching shade. Her flowers were pink cyclamen and purple violets, in a Colonial bouquet.

The quartette of bridesmaids included Miss Claire Chapman of Birmingham; Miss Phoebe Henniger of Detroit; Mrs. Vernon Hendrickson of Newago and Miss Janet Wells of Petosky. They wore identical gowns of citron chiffon, with large puffed sleeves. Their head-dresses resembled that of the honor maid, fashioned in citron color. They carried identical Colonial bouquets of violets, edged with citron ostrich feathers.

Mr. Rollins assisted Mrs. Rollins as best man. Seating the guests were Herbert Nigg, Donald A. Johnson, Richard S. Beade and Wayne Andrae.

The bridegroom was graduated from the University of Michigan with the class of 1934. He is a member of Chi Phi fraternity. His bride is a graduate of Olivet College, where she was affiliated with Sororians.

Following the ceremony, a reception was held at the Detroit Athletic Club. Mrs. Rollins received her guests in a Main bocher model, made of Chantilly lace and marquisette, in Pervanche blue. With it, she wore a small "ruff-ruff" hat of matching lace and a corsage arrangement of pink camellias.

Mrs. Lowery chose a Lucile Paray gown of spider-weave lace, in Bordeaux wine. Her small hat, of lace, was adorned with a matching shoulder veil. She wore a corsage of orchids in pastel shades.

The bride's two grandmothers also attended the affair. Mrs. Mary Lowery wore cyclamen crepe, with a corsage arrangement of pink carnations, and Mrs. Mary King wore a Vionette model of wood-violet lace, with a corsage of violets.

Afterwards, the bridal couple departed for a month's cruise to the West Indies. They will return to their temporary home at the Lee Crest, in Detroit. For traveling, the bride chose a two-piece costume of home-made and soft green crepe. With it, she wore a matching tweed hat, trimmed with a flowing green wimple, and a corsage of light green orchids.

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PLANS PERFECTED FOR CARUL PARTY

Mrs. Carl W. Sundberg opened her home on Linden road Tuesday afternoon, to members of the Altar society of Holy Name church for their monthly meeting and tea.

A blue and white color scheme was used on the tea table, which was presided over by Mrs. Frank J. McGinnis and Mrs. Joseph F. Flaherty. The committee in charge of the tea was composed of Mrs. L. Clayton Hill, Mrs. J. J. Reilly, Mrs. McGinnis and Mrs. Flaherty.

Final arrangements were made for the annual pre-Lenten bridge-luncheon, to be given by the Altar society at Northwood Inn next Tuesday afternoon, at 1 o'clock. The luncheon is open to members and their friends.

Members of the northern colony at Palm Beach include Mrs. Christopher E. Holzworth of Hartsdale road and her daughter, Mrs. Williston LaVake Clover of Itaska, Ill. The former Miss Beverly Holzworth.

Mr. and Mrs. James A. Dant of Edison avenue departed on Friday for New York, where they sailed for Nassau. After a lengthy sojourn at the island they will journey to Miami Beach, returning to Birmingham early in May.

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