

Must a Woman Be Beautiful After She's 40?

By HELEN BRUNSON

Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

A few years back a whole book was written on the subject of "Beauty After Forty." Many women past that age feel that being beautiful, or even near it, is an impossible goal to achieve. They've been through a depression and two or three wars, raised a family and helped the community. And health has declined to some degree.

Some one of them may ask, "Do I have to be beautiful, too?" But there are many factors still on her side. The children, with their attendant work and worry, are out from underfoot. And she usually has more money to spend on beauty care and becoming clothes than she ever had before. But it still takes some doing. The frousted look is not for her, so she has to allot time to have her hair done in a soft and becoming style. And she must decide whether to let it get gray or make the long struggle to keep it tinted its natural shade.

SHE MUST PAY new attention to matching the color of her skin to her make-up. "Beige powder, lightly applied, and pinkish red lipstick," says one make-up man. Another says, "Go easy on the rouge." Then there's the matter of wearing glasses. The woman who needs them may as well face it. Squinting and straining to see without them only makes her look old. Figure-troubles usually appear for the lady-past-forty. A good posture takes years of her appearance, but requires constant effort. And she may be either too fat or too thin. If she's underweight, she has a small waist that can be emphasized by the right clothes, but she has to avoid things that expose sharp elbows, a bony neck and angles in general. Not for her are sharply tailored suits. She looks for soft rounded lines,—and wears pretty hats.

IF SHE'S ALREADY LOST the battle with the chocolate eclairs, she's read reams of stuff on how to de-emphasize her weight. One thing she can do, is admit that she's fat, and as Elsie Maxwell says, "—have the boujage of her curves". By this Miss Maxwell means that there should be plenty of material in her dresses.

A sleeve pulled out at the seam or material stretched across her figure only makes the fat girl look heavier," says Elsie, who should know.

The question of colors for the not-so-young seems to find authorities in disagreement. One says that navy or black with white touches will enhance any older woman. He frowns on wearing gray. Another says that soft light colors, especially the pinks and pinkish lavenders are kind to an aging face.

Both agree that pearl jewelry, a touch of beige veiling or white gloves add to an older woman's appearance.

IT SEEMS THAT FACIAL LINES are made by hurry and tension, which should be left to the younger generation along with hassles over club affairs and other conflicts.

One woman who has achieved the serene look says, "Praise often, criticize never. Sitting at a court over other peoples' conduct makes you appear old."

And so it goes—the endless stream of advice on how to erase the signs of advancing years. A woman doesn't know whether to keep up the battle or to slip quietly into old age, with all the ease and comfort of putting on an old shoe.



Helen Brunson

Every day most of us do kindly acts for others, and others do the same for us; except, perhaps, for the customary "thanks" do we add to that simple word the kind of grateful spirit that really proves we mean "thanks"?

Paving Prices Cited in Article By City Engineer

"Low Cost Concrete Pavements for Residential Streets" is the heading of an article written by City Engineer L. E. Gare in the April 2 issue of "Michigan Roads and Construction," a weekly publication of the State Review Publishing Company.

In the article Gare explains that the construction of a high grade concrete slab pavement, while expensive initially, saves the city money in the little amount of upkeep it demands.

Gare thoroughly discusses the installation of concrete pavement with integral curbing, citing the strength of the one-piece slab including pavement, curbing and gutter. He outlines the grading and surfacing operations and the rigid controls over the amount of concrete used in paving Birmingham streets. Of the 74.2 miles of city-maintained streets, he estimates that over half are not permanently improved roads and demand constant maintenance.

EARLY IN 1950, Gare relates, the city took a long look at the streets of the city and asked for curbing on the best type of surface.

The city engineer's office came up with the fact that the concrete pavement with integral curb and gutter afforded the longest life and the city began yearly programs to improve portions of city streets on this basis.

Conceding that the concrete pavement has risen 15 per cent over the past three years.

Attended Meeting On Child Studies

Paul D. Carter, curriculum coordinator for the Birmingham public schools will be among the 100 experts from institutions in Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Wisconsin and Minnesota who attended the invitational conference on Human Relations and Human Development at the University of Michigan April 16-18.

The subject of the conference was to compare latest research in the understanding of the growth of children and the way personality and achievement are influenced by the family, school and community. Improvement of conditions for the mental health of children was studied and implications for strengthening of the professional preparation of teachers drawn.

VanDusen To Head Speaker's Comm.

Richard C. VanDusen, 1722 Pine will head a committee on relations with law students when the Detroit Bar Section of the State Bar of Michigan offers speakers to discuss legal subjects and the legal profession available to schools, clubs and other organizations.

The Detroit Bar Section is now set up to provide individual and panel speakers on such subjects as taxation, the court system, probate matters, estate planning, automobile law, labor legislation and trade regulations.



VILLAGE PLAYERS READY FOR "TICKET OF LEAVE MAN" Howard McDonald, W. Carleton Scott, W. H. Breech, Dick Cloonan, Christine Jaynes

'Hawkshaw' Closes Players' Season

With the addition of a Sunday matinee, the Village Players' production of the melodrama, "The Ticket of Leave Man" will be performed the times, starting tonight, in the Playhouse on Chestnut street. Curtain time is 8 p.m., Thursday through Saturday, while Sunday curtains are at 2:30 and 8:30. This is the Players' last presentation of the season, and as usual for the final production, is open to the public.

W. Carleton Scott, who through the play is the notorious bank robber Jim Dalton, aided by his henchman, Russell Richardson, as Melter Moss, Howard McDonald, as Hawkshaw, the detective, spends the entire six scenes hunting down these culprits.

SHRINKING heroine Christine Jaynes and hero Richard Cloonan are aided by William Breech playing the role of Harker Gibson, Helen Spinning is a "harrowous landlady, and Ed Doers an extravagant blade with a heart of gold. Irene Croford and Tom King-smith's appetites down-and-out entertainers. Included in the "olio" specialties between acts are Norrie Scott, Elsie Smith, and "The Four Nations" male quartet, singing old time songs. In the orchestra are: Wally Tolson, Clifford Guest, Clement Penrose, and Sufren Vase.

Others in the cast are George Green, Gene Manley, Bob Bills, F. Miler Hagaman, Shirley Poppleton, Bill Tompkins, Don Grey, Roy Brimsted and Rolf Spinning.

Mr. and Mrs. Al Kiehl are directing. Lorraine Maslin is assistant director; Herbert Royall is stage manager and Richard Brown, chief electrician. Katherine Hollister is in charge of the elaborate costumes.

Details of a six-team league playing twice weekly from May through July will be worked out. Teams from Michigan Bell Telephone, Birmingham Post Office, Wilson Pontiac-Cadillac, The Suburbanites, the Married Men, and others have signified interest. Players who wish to become members of teams should register.

Want cards cannot be accepted after 5 p.m. each Tuesday.

Director of Year Award to Lougee

Arthur T. Lougee, 524 Greenwood, art director of Ford Motor Company's publication office, has been chosen "art director of the year" by the National Society of Art Directors, New York, N. Y. The award was presented for Mr. Lougee's work with the Ford Times and Lincoln-Mercury Times which the national organization at stated were setting a new standard in industrial publication design.

He was nominated for the honor by the society's Boston, Mass., chapter. Lougee, a native of Maine, studied at the Boston Museum School. He taught four years at Boston's Child-Walker Art School and St. Art Junior College and at the same time did work for Boston and New York publishers. Employed at Ford's since 1946, Lougee is married and has three children.

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