

Women Love Bargains—Even Useless Ones

By HELEN BRUNSON
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Almost every woman loves a bargain. My Aunt Irene is an incurable bargain-hunter. She is willing to spend endless time and effort tracking down "buys," then she seldom uses them.

It was a box of assorted laces and insertions, bought for a song. I'd seen the same box around her house when I was a child. Auntie can't sew, but she still thinks she'll use them "some time."

When is a bargain not a bargain? Answer: when it doesn't meet an exact need.

Suppose you go down town and see a fine bargain in brown alligator pumps. Just your size. No matter that you've definitely decided to wear navy this entire year around. You still have that brown crepe dress you bought on sale two years ago and didn't wear. So you get the shoes.

BUT—WHEN you try on the dress again—to get some wear out of the shoes, the dress is out of style and never did fit too well, so you don't wear the shoes either.

And then on another shopping tour you see a genuine black milan hat at one-third its real worth. You need it like you need a horse with wings, but it's stunning, so you buy it. But alas, it's an orphan! And so another "good buy" goes into the closet—to be worn seldom—if at all.

One home economist says that the "real cost" of an article of clothing is its original cost divided by the number of wearings. At that rate, the real cost of the brown pumps and the black milan comes pretty high.

WITNESS TOO, what bargain-hunting can do to a sane shopping trip.

You go down town to buy a navy cloth coat. En route to the coal department you see a "special on linens." You fight your way to the counter, select some towels, then stand with them in your hand for 25 minutes waiting for a sales girl. You have them sent out, then go to the coal department. They don't have one you like, so down to the first floor en route to another store. But on Floor One you see a perfectly devastating value on earrings—just the thing for Cousin Esther's birthday two months hence. You spend 15 minutes selecting them, and another 15 waiting. And then on to another store.

THIS GOES on in two more stores and you still don't have the coat, but you have bought mixing bowls (you can always use an extra one), kitchen curtains (not necessary now, but what about next year?)

Then you discover that you're bone-tired and can't walk another step in quest of a coat. So, you go home.

Like as not, Cousin Esther will drop in this week and rave about how many excess pairs of earrings she already has.

Doree Smedley, in her piece on "How to Be a Skillful Shopper" says, "You'll save more money by buying exactly what you need for the present than you will by saving a few pennies on something you can't use until a later date."

But most women still like to think they're getting "something for nothing."

Methodist Women Plan Two Meetings Next Week
Two First Methodist church groups are opening their fall programs with meetings next week.

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Who most lives there come situations that produce sadness, grief, with their trials. At such times one can think of the world as a better place with and inclination toward cheerfulness and optimism. These contrasts can make one's life a great adventure.

The Birmingham Eccentric

Birmingham Background

Local History in Story and Picture

Class of '02 Still Has Three Members Living Here

What happened in 1902? Why, that was the year that the Boer War ended, the President of the United States, Theodore Roosevelt, recommended the purchase of the Panama Canal, and SEVEN lovely young ladies graduated from the Birmingham High School.

In the year 1902, civil government was established in the Philippines. Mt. Pelee erupted, the first wireless message was sent across the Atlantic Ocean and SIX serious, handsome young men were in the Birmingham High School graduation class.

Professor E. F. Waldo was then superintendent of the one and only school in Birmingham which is now called the Hill School and a used today only for administration offices. But in 1902 all the grades were in this school, with the high school classrooms on the second floor.

Three members of the graduating class of 1902 still are living in Birmingham, three living nearby, two have died and the others have gone to other cities or states, their whereabouts unknown.

IN THE graduating class was Joey Jones, whose real name was Joseph, but no one ever called him anything but Joey. He was the son of Major Jones who had part interest in the flouring mill and ran a few stores in the village.

JOEY was the most mechanical of all the boys in the class and when last heard from, Joey was working with Henry Ford at Highland Park on the new automobiles.

IVA WENT ON to Ypsilanti State Normal School and upon her graduation she entered the teaching profession, teaching in Hazelton, Pa., where she is now living on Pierce street (in a house the alone work of which was constructed by her father and is known as Iva Felder Dear.

FLORENCE BRAYMAN, another of the young ladies in the graduating class, was the youngest of a large family of Braymans who lived on Saginaw (Woodward) street.

Florence was a very nice girl who went on to become a nurse.

STEPHENS COLLEGE LISTS THREE BIRMINGHAM GIRLS AMONG 1953-54 STUDENTS
Hundreds of "Stephens Susies" from each of the 48 states and 29 foreign countries will converge on Columbia, Mo., for the opening of the fall term at Stephens college on Sept. 13.

Returning to Stephens to attend the annual campus leaders conference on Sept. 10 to Miss Nancy Elizabeth Atchley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Atchley, Pleasant, Birmingham.

Miss Atchley is chairman of the campus bulletin board, a member of the audio-visual committee and project chairman of the Alpha Alpha Alpha social sorority, and a senior sister at Pillsbury hall.



Back Row: JOSEPH JONES IVA FELDER FLORENCE BRAYMAN KATE BASSETT GERTRUDE BAILEY RHODA STARR FRANK LEFURGY
Front Row: HARRY ALLEN GLEN ROBINSON PEARL BURROWS WINIFRED BLAIR GEORGE PURDY KNOX POPPLETON
Members of Birmingham's Hill School Class of 1902

graduating from a Detroit hospital. She married and was last seen in Lansing, Mich.

KATE BASSETT, a tall and serious girl, was considered by many the smartest girl of the class. She taught school in Detroit and was married to a man named Cook and is now living with one of her daughters in Florida.

Gertrude Bailey was an out-of-town student who lived on a big farm in Troy township. Gertrude was quiet and unassuming and much to the surprise of everyone was the first girl of the class to be married. Gertrude Bailey Gray died several years ago.

Rhoda Starr was from Royal Oak. Rhoda came here for her high school education instead of attending the Royal Oak high school and later became a superintendent of the school from which she graduated. She married Joseph Green, and her whereabouts at present are unknown.

THE TALL young man is Frank LeFurgy who came to Birmingham with his family in 1899 from Hobbs Ferry, New York. His eastern accent and his polite eastern ways made quite an impression in this small mid-western town.

Frank, the valedictorian of the class, lived with his family near Lone Pine road. Whenever road conditions permitted, Frank rode to school on his bicycle. He is now living in Pontiac, retired from his work at Pontiac Motors.

Holding on to his chair for dear life in the graduating picture is Harry Allen, who now lives on West Maple, Birmingham, and is a lawyer with offices in Detroit.

HARRY WAS a serious young student, and, according to one class member, was the one who always put up the arguments. Allen has served on the village board (1929-30) and as mayor of Birmingham (1939-1950).

Glen Robinson, president of the class, was a son of Mrs. Joseph Robinson, the former Emma Chaffield who had once taught at Hill school. Glen became a salesman, invested his money and became quite well to do.

After living in California, he is now in Highland Park where he is in the real estate business.

The girl with the pinch-petite glasses was quiet and acquiescent and teacher's pet. Her name was Pearl Burrows and she, too, lived in Royal Oak, commuting to school from her home. No one seems to know what happened to Pearl Burrows.

WINIFRED BLAIR is the girl sitting on the floor. She was the daughter of Maurice Blair, a village druggist. Winifred moved with her family to Royal Oak and as far as her classmates know, never married. She lived in Royal Oak until recently when she moved to East Outer Drive, Detroit.

George Purdy for whom Purdy street is named. The Purdy family was a large one and had come from Southfield.

Tuberculosis ran in the Purdy family, several members having died from the disease. George Purdy lived only about two years after this picture was taken.

Knox Poppleton, sitting straight and tall with a bow tie and high collar, was the son of Herbert Poppleton, grandson of Orrin Poppleton and was from one of Birmingham's most industrial families.

Only one reunion of this class has been held and that was in 1905 when all the members were present at Joey Jones home in Detroit.

WATKINS STREET has been named for Guy and F. J. Watkins who owned property there. It has been said that the Watkins family imported the first shetland ponies to this country from the Shetland Islands and bred them at the Watkins farm out on West Maple avenue.

ANN STREET was named for his wife, Ann Benedict Blakelee, and FRANK STREET was named for his son Frank Blakelee, who was once owner of a general store on West Maple street.

Class colors of 1902 were blue and white and the class motto (in Latin, of course) meant, "To be rather than to seem."

The graduating exercises were held at the First Methodist Church as usual, but this was the last

Gamma Globulin Has Helped Many Polio Potentials
The bulk of the youngsters, he said, were in 14 epidemic areas ranging from Alabama to Juneau, Alaska, and from Montana to New York.

The United States Public Health Service, Dr. Bauer said, "distributed enough gamma globulin to inoculate 300,000 people, to 53 states and territories before the polio season started in late July. This was not for epidemic use—merely for use when individuals were exposed to the disease."

Dr. Bauer said the public health service reported that polio had stricken 12,214 children and adults through Aug. 15 of this year—some what under last year's 15,155 in the same period.

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