

THE COMMUTER'S WIFE

Wives Earn Right To Have Some Say In Money Matters

By HELEN BRUNSON
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Lucky is the wife whose hubby says, "Here's my paycheck, dear," accepts an allowance for cigarettes, lunches, etc., then lets wife manage the rest her own way. But according to remarks dropped by wives in unguarded moments, this practice is not universal.

It's not that the husband is stingy. It's just that he earns the money, so he thinks he should keep a hand on it. His work brings in cash, while mother's 50 to 60 hours of homemaking per week do not. And so the marital tug-of-war over money begins.

This necessity for getting hubby to "divide up" is a product of our very modern civilization.

The pioneer woman, in an economy essentially rural, had little need for cash and there was next to none of it available.

Her household was almost entirely self-sufficient, from the butter she churned down to the home-made toys for the children. That dress-length of calico she needed could be had in barter for her chickens and eggs. She was untempted by perfumed cosmetics, electric household gadgets or filmy lingerie. There weren't any.

But grandmother, the pioneer woman's daughter, living a step further into the factory phase of American life, began to want things. And she had trouble separating granddaddy from enough cash to buy the "human hair" switch or the red velvet portieres she wanted.

Today's wife has much more need of cash than did her grandmother. She is surrounded by a glittering array of things she'd like to have, and sees her friends having. And some of these things seem pretty silly to her husband.

She finds a number of solutions. She may persuade her husband to give her an allowance. Then, by rigid economy in the kitchen, she can save out enough to buy the new hat she wants, or nylon curtains for the bedroom.

Or she may buy at stores that offer coupons or stamps with purchase of foods and staples. Thus painlessly, to her husband, she may acquire a new deep-fryer, fancy lamp or handbag.

If she's trained for teaching, nursing or other work, yet tied down with small children, she patiently, or impatiently, awaits the day when she can get the kids in school and work at a part-time job. Or perhaps during this period, she manages to make jewelry, do typing or some other job, at home.

Later on, when she has tired of asking her husband for money, and wearied of the argument of whether to buy hunting equipment for him or a new ironer for her, she goes out and gets a full-time job.

But none of these solutions will separate her from her basic belief that, as a homemaker, she really earns half of the family income and should have an equal voice in spending it.

NATURE NOW

Woods Hold Answers To All Living Things

BY LYDIA KING FRETSE
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Greetings to each and all from the Northwoods. For the next two months "Nature Now" will be written from Walloon Lake, where on this summer morning the teeming life on the shore suggests this acrostic:

A—All life is one.
B—Beauty rests in the eyes of the beholder. Nature's point of view is functional.

C—Clouds adrift in the summer sky, resemble life as they wander by.
D—Dragonflies add exquisite color and movement to the drama at the water's edge.

E—Earth, one of the 100,000 planets, a drifting bubble in the infinite reaches of the universe.

F—Forest deep and cool, its shore pattern of tree trunks mirrored in the lake whose frame is a rim of wooded hills.

G—Gulls, swift and graceful, swoop down to meet a white sail bobbing on blue water.

H—Heat, summer's answer to the food demands of all life's hungry boards.

I—Ichnumon wasp, its slender ovipositor striking deep through the bark of a healthy tree, where its larvae will parasitize yet another larva, those of a wood-boring beetle.

J—Jasper conglomerate at my feet, interpreter of past geological events, its cemented pebbles rounded by water's action, lit ride from Superior's rim accomplished on a glacier.

K—Katydid—whether she "did" or she "didn't" is a dispute strictly between the males, since their wives are voiceless; they have no wing ridges or rasps with which to "fiddle".

L—Lichen, grey-green scale on a nearby tree-trunk; ancient soil-maker, the magic of chlorophyll in primitive algal growth teamed up with the water retaining power of fungal threads.

M—MUSIC of the spheres—and time to contemplate the universe via the small new telescope so recently set up on the dock.

N—Nature, comforting and competent mother of us all.
O—Owl—sleeping this morning but drifting down tonight on silent wings on a mission which will erase some hapless rodent or mammal.

P—Pastels, soft blues of sky, pink of wild rose along the hedge-row, lavender of pungent mint at the water's edge.

Q—Quercus alba (white oak), the strongest and staunchest of our North American trees, spreading out acres of leaf-green to the sun.

R—Rapture—morning chorus of bird-song.
S—Strength of the hills which rim the lake. "I will lift up mine eyes."
T—Tussock moth—today a leaf-eating caterpillar with long white bristles and a black mustache, tomorrow a grey moth trying out its new-found wings.

U—UVULARIA grandiflora, a clump of the large-flowered bellwort, at home in the deep shade of maple and beech.

V—Victory of life over death proclaimed by every blade and leaf, by every creature that moves and grows.

W—Water, life's greatest solvent, its undulant murmur part and parcel of all our summers in the Northwoods country.

X—Xerophthalma campensella, a group of tiny orange mephroon cups, spreading out their parasols over an already shaded and moss covered log.

Y—Yellow-jacket darting through the air to reach its underground nest, its entrance well hidden at the base of a rotted log.
Z—Zim, Herbert. Gifted young scientist whose book on "Insects lies idle at my side. This is the Northwoods, and all here recorded is within reach of sight and sound and hand on this summer morning on Walloon Lake.



Mrs. Fretse



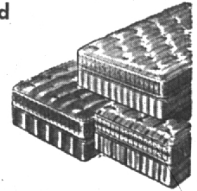
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Windshield glass area—940 sq. in. or more	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO
Rear window glass area—978 sq. in. or more	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO
Total glass area—3,200 sq. in. or more	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Right front fender visible by driver	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Window lifts available on 4 windows	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Window lift power seat available	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
Four-way deck lid opening	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
Turn-key deck lid opening	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Front vent window rainshields—standard on all models	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Hood insulation	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
CHASSIS FEATURES					
Ball-Joint Front Suspension	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
Full Locking Drive	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO
Three or more forward speeds in automatic transmission	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO
Accelerator controlled downshift on automatic transmission up to 59 mph (Drive range)	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Riveted brake lining	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Rear shock absorbers diagonally mounted to frame	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Rear spring length—53 inches or more	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Parallelogram steering linkage	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
ENGINE FEATURES					
V-8 engine offered	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO
Low-friction design (bore larger than stroke)	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO
Overhead-valve engine design	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO
Piston speed at 60 mph—1,500 ft. per min. or less	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Water all around cylinders for full length	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
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