

**COMMUTER'S WIFE**

**Women Keep Filthy Literature Alive By Their Buying**

By HELEN BRUNSON

Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

A small group of women (and men) are busily engaged in fighting bad and harmful literature, while a large number are engaged in promoting it—with cold cash at the newsstands. And that item is pretty potent these days.

I refer to the handful of PTA members, congressmen and others who are trying to keep lascivious literature out of circulation versus the great army of buyers who are dipping out halves of the green stuff every day to buy such amusements as the new confidential-type magazines.

The editor of one of them states that some 80 per cent of his readers are women. And he simply says that he "offers the girls what they want and they buy it."

A SAD COMMENTARY on what some of us want out of life. He says he sensed the popularity of inside-book stuff during the Refresher hearings when housewives by



Mrs. Brunson

the thousands left a sink full of dirty dishes to watch TV. He started his magazine which caters to their appetite for prying into the lives of others. The material he sells is strictly from the gutter, and has to do mainly with the illicit love life of this or that celebrity.

Now everyone knows that a housewife has it pretty dull at times, what with the famo- us things

that happens being the buttons are all off. Junior's pants, or the rifehline fell down.

AND SOMETIMES she's fresh out of pater about local wrongdoers. She could stand a little something to make the day more interesting. But she doesn't have to buy this stuff. It can be left to rot on the newsstands, and it would be out of business in one issue.

Probably few of these buyers of trash live in this community, where the education-level is high, and where their turn their attention to bettering life around them.

I'M JUST POINTING out that some women are in big business, patronizing this tripe. These magazines, though, are climbing in circulation while some of the better type women's "books" are losing readers.

Women have long contended that it was the men who sponsored some of the less-savory aspects of American life. But in this instance, they can't blame it on the men.

Actually, women do set the standards, both for their men and their children. And men have looked to them to do it. That's where they get that hand-that-works-the-cradle, rule-a-the-world theme.

I'm just saying that women could exert a lot of power if they wanted to use it in the way it would do the most good.

**VanderPyls Host Picnic, Pool Party**

Mr. and Mrs. Robert VanderPyl, 24 Lake Park entertained members of the Suburban Garden club and their husbands at a picnic and pool party on Sunday.

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**NATURE NOW**

**Can't Give Life to Inanimate**

By LYDIA KING FREHSE  
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

This morning the youngest member of our household came to me bearing a gift. It was a so-called "hair-snake" which she had dipped out of the shallow water with a battered tin cup.

A two and one-half year old has not yet learned the meaning of the words "dramatic" and "spectacular". She is naturally interested in all she sees and hears and touches.

She liked the "feel" of this tiny creature no bigger than a hair as it coiled and uncoiled itself on her small open hand.

The other child in our "summer" family is nine. She is already interested in seeing the "hair-snake" through my hand lens. By means of this she can readily distinguish between its sucker-like "head" and its divided "tail".

THERE IS a common superstition that a "hair-snake" is a horse-hair which has dropped into the water and has then miraculously turned itself into a live snake. But even nature cannot turn the inanimate into the animate.

The truth is that this so-called "hair snake" is a common species of round worm present all over the world. It is one of the "hair worms" which are 88,000 named species of the worm family.

Often the word "worm" is erroneously used to designate a variety of animals which wriggle, which are long and round and too small to be snakes.

Insect larvae are most frequently so named when they should be called grubs, maggots or caterpillars.

A real worm is always a worm and not some phase of another animal's life.

THIS LOWLY family is ignored by most people, yet its incredible numbers are very important in nature's economy. Many species, like the leeches, the flukes, and the tapeworms are parasitic and are dangerous to men or animals.

They have fantastically complicated life histories, sometimes involving several intermediate hosts. The pig plays this role for the tapeworm and the rat for the trichina worm.

Many, like the liver fluke, which

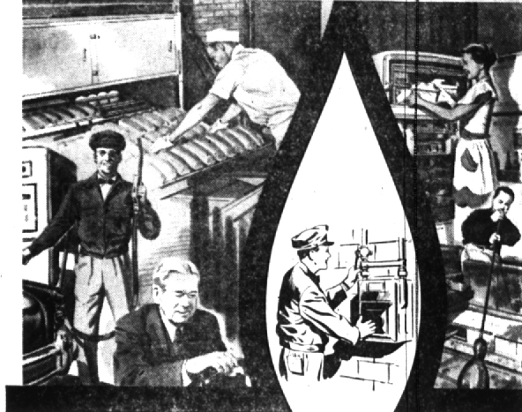
their sudden appearance in the adult stage in almost any place where there is fresh water.

IN MANY CASES the adult lacks a mouth, and even if a mouth is present it does not feed although it may live for months. The adult stage may therefore be considered purely as the reproductive phase during which the worms mate and lay their eggs

second insect host. Their emergence may occur as this host flies over the water or they may be swept into the water by a heavy rain. These facts may account for

this completing the life-cycle. It does not seem very long since your scribbles, a little girl with time on her hands, would sometimes on

lary summer mornings dip a hair snake from the watering trough by her grandfather's barn. And for all she knew it was a real snake. But she soon learned that it was small and harmless. It was something to see and touch. It was something to wonder about. And it still is.



This man has many bosses . . .

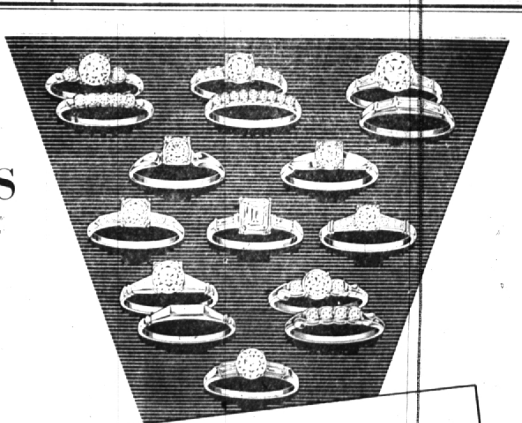
This man works for only one company, your gas company. But his "bosses" are many—your own customer and our stockholders.

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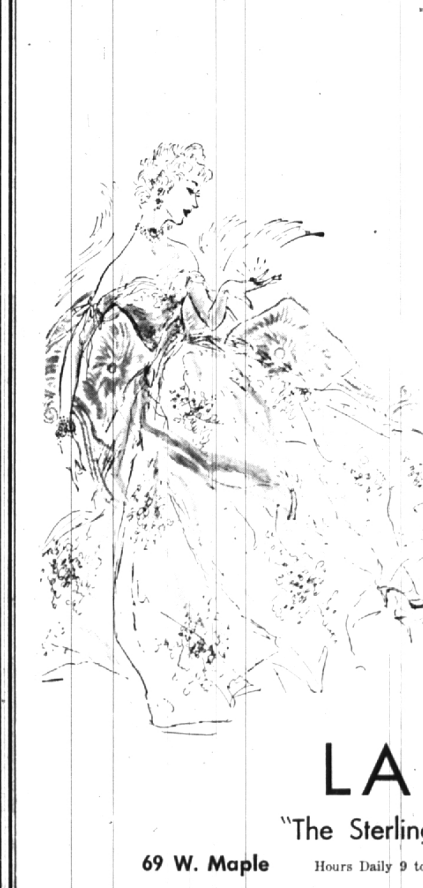
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