

In Confidence

Readers desiring a personal reply can address Miss Flo, in care of this newspaper.



Husband Wants To Know—

Dear Miss Flo—
Oh for the life of a bachelor— for that's the only time in a man's life that he can "be himself" with nobody to nag him about it! I am beginning to find married life intolerable, because my wife is always finding fault about something. She thinks that to be a good housekeeper is to be an ideal wife, and it never occurs to her that good-fellowship and companionship are more important to a man than a spotless home. I haven't a minute's peace while I'm in the house, and if I go out without her she nags about being neglected. How do women get that way?

Why do women "nag"? I wonder! I suppose it is because their natural impulse is to manage and take care of people. A woman likes order and neatness, and she wants her house and her children to be a credit to her. When they aren't up to the standards she has set for them she feels that it is a reflection on her. And as she considers her husband more or less another one of her children, she proceeds to bring him up, to train him in the ways and manners of the perfect husband, and to keep him in order generally.

And why do men hate to be corrected, criticized and regulated? Probably because they love peace, inaction and want to be left alone, once inside the home. They expect it to be a haven of rest, from whence all petty annoyances have been banished. And they feel that their personal liberty is being interfered with if their wife suggests they drop their ashes in the trays provided for that purpose. If they are comfortable, that's enough. Why always be bothering about the house? They simply cannot understand why women set such store by these things. The only way to correct a situation is to understand it. If a husband

can make his wife understand that his careless ways about the house are not deliberate attempts to irritate her and make her work a little harder, she might let up a little on the "nagging."

On the other hand, if a husband can be made to realize that his wife's nagging is really only an indication of her deep interest in him, he will not be irritated by her well-meant efforts. And he will understand that it is her inherent feminine love of all that is home.

While it is highly desirable that a wife be a good housekeeper, we agree that good-fellowship and companionship are far more important. Cleanliness and order are two domestic virtues that may easily be converted into vices that become a fetish that makes life anything but comfortable.

We all know houses that are spick and span but that are no more homes than a shiny box would be. Nobody would dare disarrange a sofa cushion in one of them. Nobody would have the courage to move a chair from its appointed place, and to leave anything around would be a high crime and a sacrilege unspeakable. Naturally a husband must feel a perfect stranger in such a home—like a bull in a china shop. His one impulse is to see this place of order and cleanliness as he would a chamber of torture, and he lives in dread and fear of the woman who has become cross to her struggle to attain her ideals of perfect housekeeping.

No real home is ever too bright and good for daily use. To be a real home it must be run on a flexible schedule and kept only reasonably clean and orderly. Foolish is the woman who doesn't realize this and spends her time keeping her house clean instead of making it a home, for she is literally driving her husband away from her with the handle of a broom.

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WM. FRAZIER RUSSELL, JR., Attorney,
CHESTERTOWN, MD.

Dr. Frank Crane Says



Let's Stop This Endless Race

Representative Butler, chairman of the House and Naval Affairs Committee recently asserted that the United States ought to build practically a new navy to cost more than \$1,000,000,000.

We are lagging steadily behind other nations and from being alone toward the front we have dropped to fourth place.

This he holds to be a great danger. Just where the competing nations in armament are to stop he does not suggest.

About the only way we can be made to stop it is for one nation that is undoubtedly strong to cease competing with the others.

The danger in this course is that the others will take advantage of it. It will be looked upon as a trusting and lamblike sucker. A lamb among the wolves, and the danger is that the other nations may eat it up.

This is a favorite idea among a certain class of people, the idea that our own nation is trusting, gentle and kind and harmless and all other nations are evil-minded and grasping.

There is no nation in the world in which this idea is not common.

The notion is not peculiar to nations. There are many individuals who have it. Many people in a family refuse to be kind and gentle because they think the other members of the family will take advantage of them.

It seems to be an absurd idea hat

was in the mind of Christ that the way to beget kind treatment on the part of others is to give them kind treatment first.

Many people believe that doing unto others as they would have others do unto them is all right, but they neglect to add the corollary that you must do it first.

It looks as if it would some time yet to get the idea in the minds of people that the way to keep from being attacked by others is not to attack them and not to be able to attack them.

The idea of the United States arming itself to the teeth is quite a popular one among certain classes. They do not take into account the utter futility of this program as proved during the late war and the fact that preparation for war in the way of armament can easily become an intolerable burden.

The best way to get rid of war is deliberately to turn our back upon it and the only thing we should do in the way of armament is to so arrange our affairs that the forces of peace can be quickly mobilized in the event of national danger. Our Army and Navy, for instance, cannot be too big if they are all employed in constructive peace-time work and can be easily switched into war at short notice, but to maintain them as a force merely drilling and preparing to destroy is to subject ourselves to the old-world burden of armament.



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Testo-Ten

How Smart Are You? What is Your Average?

"Test of Ten" questions create and hold the interest of our readers. It is proving to be one of the most popular features in our paper.

Every week it wins new enthusiastic followers. If you haven't yet

TEST OF TEN QUESTIONS

1. What is John D. Rockefeller's middle name?
2. Who made the first U. S. flag, according to tradition?
3. Who was the first child born on earth?
4. What is the longest tunnel in the world? What is it, and what is its length?
5. What title is given to the wife of an earl?
6. How many former presidents of the United States are still living?
7. In how many wars has the United States participated? Name them.
8. In what state is Amherst College?
9. From what poem is the following line—"Blessings on thee, little man"? By whom was it written.
10. What is a pagan?

The correct answers will be published next week.

TEST OF TEN ANSWERS

1. Sald Lake City, Utah.
2. Rustlers.
3. In 1814, by Francis Scott Key.
4. Macadam.
5. An albino has white skin and hair, and pinkish eyes.
6. Sea-gulls.
7. 969 years old.
8. Gen. Plutarco Elias Calles.
9. The Sphinx and Pyramids of Egypt, the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, the State of Jupiter Olympus in the Valley of Olympia, the Temple of Diana at Ephesus, the Tomb of Mausolus at Halicarnassus, the Pharos (lighthouse) of Alexandria, and the Colossus of Rhodes.
10. Sinclair Lewis, Elmer Gantry.

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