

For the Woman Reader
by **Florence Riddick Boys**
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MOTHERS AND MOTHERS

There are all kinds of mothers: the over-solicitous mother, who makes her children self-conscious with constant thought for themselves and their welfare; the selfish mother, who never is satisfied with anything her children do; the slaving mother, who is the willing door-mat for her children to wipe their feet on; and forty seven other varieties of mother. What kind of a mother are you?

We are learning that children become what they are—not from willfulness nor a decision to be thus and so—but largely because of the treatment they have received through the years from their fathers and mothers and brothers and sisters and other associates. It is very important, then, how a mother behaves toward her child.

The over-solicitous mother will make her child a namby-pamby, with his finger continually on his pulse. He will not dare go out in the rain for fear he will take cold, nor work for fear he will sweat, nor play ball with the other boys for fear he might break something. He will be full of fears and anxieties and cowardliness, afraid of his shadow because he has been taught from baby-hood that danger lurks in everything and he must continually "look out."

The selfish mother lets her children run wild. They have to make all their discoveries for themselves and learn by their mistakes. They are likely to become strong, independent creatures just on that account— if they do not do something terrible and come to grief while they are learning. For the lack of a mother's protection and guidance, they may get into bad company and go wrong, because, like Topsy, they "just growed" and were never trained and refined.

The nagging mother discourages her child and makes him hateful and lose confidence in himself. He is looking for everyone to find fault with him and does not know how to give himself to a sweet and trusting friendship. He does not expect others to like him because he has come to think of himself as "all wrong."

The mother who makes a slave of herself for her children develops a very selfish child who will go through life making demands upon others. He does not learn to deny himself and never feels that he owes a duty to society and to others. He thinks of himself as the center of the universe and believes that the world owes him a soft time and it is the job of others to wait upon him. He is in for an unhappy life, when disillusionment comes.

EVERGREENS

Fall is the time to set out evergreens. They add a dignity and choiceness to a home which even the green leafy shrubs cannot supply. They have the advantage of keeping their cheering color all winter and form a pleasant contrast with the snow.

They are valuable for screen purposes and to accent particular points of interest, as a doorway, a pathway or a porch. The dwarf varieties are preferred for foundation planting, with a tall specimen between windows or in the background, to give emphasis and shapeliness to the mass.

For single specimens, Nordman's Fir and Koster's Blue Spruce are particularly good, or the Mugho Pine. The tall, slender cedar is good where a columnar effect is desired, as for sentinels at either side of a doorway. Hemlock is good for a windbreak, planted in rows as a hedge. Arbor Vitae, an account of its denseness makes a good hedge. For foundation planting, the dwarf varieties, as the Mugho Pine, Cypress and Yews are desirable.

The mother who thinks more of her hard-wood floors than she does of her children will find the youngsters going out on the street for their pleasures—and the streets are full of snares for boys and girls.

The erratic, unstable mother will keep her children constantly upon needles, fearing "what next?" This attitude of insecurity does not make for poise or calm development, but cultivates a cringing attitude, as though the child expected to be slapped in the next moment. Such a child will never have courage and push ahead in life with confidence in himself. He will always be afraid some calamity lurks just around the corner and hence he will not dare to tackle any important enterprise.

The brilliant, successful, dominant mother overpowers her children by the ease with which she seems to accomplish things. She discourages them and makes them feel inferior, by the very strength and ability she knows. They are likely to trail along in her retinue, never presuming to equal her, not even to think for themselves. They wait to take their cue from her and do not strike out into life "on their own." Thus they become satellites rather than stars.

The dominating mother who says "Do it because I say so," makes either the rebellious stubborn child, like herself, who will bully other people; or else the meek, cringing child who is only a shadow personality and will take orders all his life from someone.

The inquisitive mother who is always prying into her child's affairs will make the secretive and deceitful child who will not confide in his mother. The mother who thinks more of her career than of her children is in for disappointment in woman's greatest career—motherhood. The "clinging vine" type of mother, while she does cultivate the sturdy oak type of child because he has to take care of himself and her too, is a great drag and handicap to the child and does not leave him free to run in the race.

The mother who does not understand the children of this age drives them away from her, from lack of sympathy and appreciation. She loses her influence over her children and cannot guide them in the crises of life.

And what can you expect of the mother who tells society lies over the telephone, who fools her husband, who is a card fiend and shark, who cheats or who is immoral? What sort of an influence will she have over her children?

HAND LOTION

To keep the hands soft and smooth in rough weather, use a hand lotion. The following one can easily be prepared at home:

One-half ounce gum tragacanth, two ounces glycerine, one ounce alcohol, one-fourth ounce rose water, one-half ounce wintergreen. Soak the gum tragacanth in a quart of rain water over night; then strain it; add the other ingredients; and bottle. This makes almost three pints, enough to last the household all winter.

CHEER IN A ROOM

The gloom and somberness of dark days may be dispelled by the use of rich colors in room decoration. Gold, burnt orange, vivid blue, rose, wine red, or royal purple draperies, cushions and lampshades will brighten up a room and make it gay and warm in tone.

SPORT STOCKINGS

Mothers, who have wondered how the family would ever tide over the silk stocking age for the young ladies of the household, will be relieved to learn that checked and figured cotton sport hose are fashionable for school girls.

POTATO PUFF

To three cups of mashed potatoes, add a half-cup of hot milk, one cup of grated cheese, seasoning of shredded pimiento, and the yolks of two eggs. Lastly fold in the well beaten whites of the eggs and bake until firm and browned.

SALAD DRESSING

Heat two tablespoons of salad oil or butter in a saucepan. Add one tablespoon flour, and stir; then add paprika, pepper and salt to taste, and a teaspoon of prepared mustard, and stir. Add a fourth cup each of boiling water and vinegar; bring to the boiling point; pour over the beaten yolks of two eggs, and beat until smooth.

CHILD TRAINING

To build character in a child and develop a sense of duty, responsibility and family loyalty, give to each child some allotted tasks. If one child is sick or goes away, another should take his place, as a favor, that day; and then they can exchange with one another.

METAL CLOTH

Metal cloth which looks so bright and shiny when it is new, is likely to tarnish in time. When laying it away, place tissue paper between the folds and this will help prevent the tarnish. To remove tarnish from metal lace, cloth or slippers, brush them lightly with alcohol.

MARK YOUR DISHES

When taking plates or cups to a church social or picnic, mark them by means of small pieces of adhesive tape, stuck to the bottom, and on which you write your initials.

A BETTER HOME

A small boy, in a contest, wrote this description of a "Better Home": "A Better Home is one my father is proud to support, my mother is glad to keep, our friends like to visit. It is a place to grow old in."

"BOUDOIR IRON"

A tiny iron has been invented which maily may carry with her in a suit case, to press her garments after she arrives at her journey's end. It requires no gas, electricity nor alcohol, but is heated by means of fuel tablets.

AN IDEAL HOME

The ideal home is a place where the family keeps health, where they rest, and play and enjoy enough of fellowship to keep the group interested in one another.

FOR THE HOME

It is for the creation and preservation of the home that the world's work goes on. When all is well done, and prosperous times comes, it is the home that benefits most. Besides being the foundation of the state, the home is the ALL of civilization.

SMILES

As to short skirts: "Man wants but little here below, Nor wants that little long."

Telephone customers vary in different countries. In the U. S., we say, "Hello." In England they begin, "Are you there?" Then, of course, if you are not there, there is no use in going on with the question.

marriage that you cannot keep up a home.

I am not advocating that a man should not marry until he can support a wife in luxury. In fact, I think a few bumps will do a lot toward bringing them closer together. It doesn't take a fortune for a couple to marry on marriage, however, does mean making a home, and making a home means a pay check sufficient to cover the necessities with a few dollars left over to save for "a rainy day." There should be a frank discussion of finances before a wedding date is thought of.

Lyceum Theatre

Do you know, H. H., there is no telling what women will do. You think she hasn't any idea of how small your salary is, but I have a hunch that if she has known you for two years, she knows a great deal more about your business affairs than you think she does. Naturally, she can't tell you about it. That's your job.

In the first place, there's a world of difference between two of your statements. Not being able to support a wife at all, and not being able to support her in the way she has been accustomed to, are two different things. If you are unable to support her, you would be nothing less than a cad to marry her. But if you are able to support her, even though it be on a smaller scale, I see no reason why you shouldn't marry her, telling her, of course, just how things stand. If she loves you, she may be willing to take a chance.

To a sentimental, romantic person, it may be rather a shock to be told that every girl should know the amount of her future husband's pay check. Common sense and self-interest demand that a couple talk in terms of dollars before marriage. It is a great deal better to talk money before marriage than to learn after

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In Confidence

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

H. H. Has Love—But Little Cash

ss Flo—
I have been going with a wonderful girl for almost two years. While we have often talked of marriage, I have hesitated at an immediate wedding. Consequently, she believes that I do not love her—that I am playing with her. The fact of the matter is, I am not sure of myself. I am not sure that I can support a wife, because my salary is quite small. We have never talked over the financial end of the subject, so I don't suppose my sweetheart has the slightest idea of how very small my salary is. I have tried several times to tell her, but somehow, my courage always fails me. I may be rather sentimental, but it seems to me the question of money should never enter into the question of love. The fact is, she knows how darn small my salary is. I am afraid she will want to break off. She has a very good position, and while I do not know just what her salary is, I do know that she always buys the best of everything. Therefore, I am quite sure that I could not support her and keep a home on my earnings. That is, I couldn't support her as well as she is supporting herself. When I tell her that we cannot get married for at least another year or two, she tells me that if I loved her, I would not want to wait. I don't want to, but what's a fellow going to do?
—H. H.

Well, H. H., you do have your troubles, don't you? And of course, the only thing you can do is to talk things over with this wonderful girl.

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