

Mother Who Rears Child Has Claims

BY MARTHA LEE

Marriage is a sacrament whereby man and woman are joined together in wedlock "for better or for worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health, until death do us part." Love is a sacred thing and should be respected as such.

Outside influence brought to bear on man or wife, influencing one or the other to break away from the bond, is absolutely wrong and should not be tolerated. If there is such a thing as retribution, an individual through whose fault a married couple is separated surely will be punished.

There is no one so despicable as a man who leaves his wife and child for any shallow reason; there is no one so desistive as a mother, left with her baby, with no means of support. What a pathetic picture, that of a young wife, returning to her father's house, obliged to admit her marriage was a failure, through no fault of her own.

Deserter Has No Claims

A father who deserts his child in its infancy has no claim on it as it grows to adolescence. How typical of his nature is the father, who is so heartless that he can leave a baby, and then when the baby is old enough to be companionable, asserts his paternal instincts and claims the child as his own and attempts to take it from its mother, who has cared for it in its dependence.

If a woman has a good home, can give her child proper care, and rear it in a wholesome environment, she should not surrender it to the father, or to the father's relations.

The mother has a right to keep the child, and is justified in resenting outside interference.

Dear Miss Lee—When I was 20, I married a boy two years my junior. We had two little girls; one died when only two months old, and the other now is ten.

When she was only 15 months old, her father came home one day and told me he was leaving me; that his parents thought he should find some one younger than I, and should keep the baby because his parents did not want to be bothered with her. They thought him too young to be tied down.

I took the child and went home to my parents. After the divorce, the court ordered him to contribute \$8 a week to the child's support. He did this for several months, then married again and left the state. Since then, I have supported the child myself with the help of my parents.

This fall my former husband's brother, speaking for him, offered me \$200 to sign a paper releasing him from all future responsibility, and agreed to sign a paper, in return, to the effect that he never would try to take the child from me, or try to see her.

I came with the request, but he sooner had I received the money, than the brother came to me saying that they were going to visit John, and could they take Dolores with them. I let her go. He sent her back with a new hat and coat. The brothers' wife came to me later and said that John wanted Dolores to live with them; that he would support her, and that if I was the right kind of mother, he would give her that opportunity. I refused, but I cared for her during the years her father neglected her and felt that I had first claim. But he refuses to help her any longer as long as she is with me.

They want her every Saturday and Sunday, and her father wants her for Christmas and all next summer. I don't want

PRESENTS MUSICAL PROGRAM



GRACE HUTCHINS

A musical program, "The Art Song," was given by Miss Grace Hutchins, assisted by Mrs. Jane Johnson Burroughs, at the meeting of the New Century Club, Wednesday, at the home of Mrs. W. Clem Johnson, 1824 Broadway. Mrs. Meville Moon assisted the hostess.

Candidates to be Initiated in Rites Sunday

Initiation of candidates into the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Ancient Order of Hibernians will be held at 3 Sunday afternoon at the roof garden of the Hotel Severin.

Miss Mayme O'Connell, county president, will preside, assisted by other county officers. Following the initiation rites, a banquet will be held. Reservations may be made with Mrs. I. R. La Porte, Irvington 0377-J.

Those who appear on the program in the evening are Miss Cecilia O'Mahoney, Ralph Maddux, Patrick Sullivan, Robert Marley, Miss Gertrude Rockford, Miss Julia Rockford and Miss Margaret Ann Feeney.

Celebrate Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Milton Hittle, Noblesville, observed their golden wedding anniversary Thursday by entertaining their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren with a family party.

Name Dance Date

Members of the choir of St. Roch's church will entertain with a series of dances, Saturday night, Dec. 14, at their hall. Joseph B. Brand is in charge of arrangements.

Chansonne Club to Meet

Mrs. Helen Warren Chappell will entertain members of the Chansonne Club at her home, 3322 Washington boulevard, at 3 Sunday afternoon. Miss Rosemary Cook, mezzo soprano, Terre Haute, and Mrs. E. E. Voyles, pianist, will present the program.

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DINNER WILL HONOR SEVEN VISITORS

Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Witt, 1321 North Meridian street, will entertain Saturday night with a dinner party in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Fowler and Mr. and Mrs. Charles

Corey, Lafayette, who are their house guests for the week-end, and for Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Haywood, Lafayette, and Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Burnham, Evanston, Ill., who are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Herbert M. Woolen, 1719 North Pennsylvania street.

Mrs. Robert Tyndall will entertain them Sunday at luncheon at

the Indianapolis Athletic Club, and sorority, will have charge of arrangements for the benefit bridge party to be given by the sorority at the Lumley tearoom at 8 tonight.

Auxiliary in Session

Miss Ruth Higgins, chairman of the ways and means committee, Alpha Chi chapter, Sigma Alpha Campbell avenue. Members are

asked to bring contributions for the Thanksgiving baskets.

State Auditor Speaks

Arch. N. Bobbitt, state auditor, was the speaker for the luncheon meeting of the Indianapolis Altura Club which met for luncheon at the Columbia Club today.

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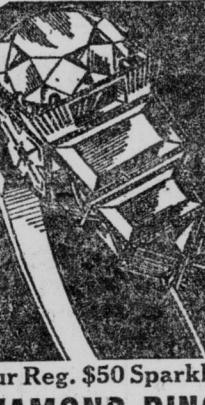
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