

Ask Mrs. Manners—

Will Clandestine Romance Affect Marriage?

Dear Mrs. Manners:

MY FIANCEE AND I would like to get married. We can't find a place to live. We're both employed, and I have a child by a former marriage.

Being rather physically attracted, as well as being attracted in everything else, it is hard for us to keep waiting. What should we do—get married now, keep it a secret, and stay together occasionally in a hotel, or stay unmarried till we find a home and stay in a hotel once-in-awhile? I know that sounds rough, but what are we young people to do?

Articles are published on the high divorce rate. This housing problem is one that all young people meet today when they start a marriage and sometimes it heads their marriage for the "rocks." Even the most undesirable places, when available, are expensive.

We want to be married and have a home and raise a family, and we're both past the average marrying age. We've tried every way to find a home.

What next—a clandestine romance or a feeling of incompleteness and loneliness all the time?

P. S.—We do love each other very much and feel that if we should spend nights together unmarried it wouldn't affect our later marriage—but I sometimes worry that it might.

If thought of illicit relations bothers you, the act will bother you more. Let's be practical as well as good—premarital looseness won't get you a house.

I'll have to hope your name so that I may mail you any letters that you receive. Hope you soon have that honeymoon.

Poetry for Sale

ALL MY LIFE I have enjoyed reading and writing poetry and have written several poems. Some might be good for song poems.

I am 23, the mother of two small sons. If I could earn anything from my little ability I would feel like I had accomplished something in this "mixed-up" world as well as help my family financially.

Could you give me names of poetry buyers or publishers? D. M.

(I'll answer you, Mickey and B. B. whose letters follow, together.)

I Want to Write Poetry

I'M A GIRL of 19 and have the ambition to write poetry. I have written a song which I want to sell but don't know how. When I was 9 I wrote a poem and saw it printed without my name. Ten years ago I was in a poetry contest and wrote "The Last Mile." I never heard about my poem but later it was published under another name. Where can I turn in these lyrics?

Seeks Music for Poems

DO YOU KNOW anyone who writes music that I could get in contact with? I write poems and I want someone whom I can trust that would put the music to my poems.

In 1945 some 22,000 new songs were copyrighted and of that number only 53 did well. The best "plugging" is done by making band and radio contacts, and by haunting Hollywood or New York publishers.

According to Writers' Market: "The best way to sell a song is to be the brother-in-law of the publisher." Develop contacts within the publisher's office, print your own song and have it copyrighted, persuade a local band to promote it. The Writers' Market further says: "The general idea is to write enough songs, present enough copies of them, pester enough people, and get the song played often enough that somewhere, somehow, you bump into the right chap who will give you a glimmer of an 'in' when writing a well-known song publisher." Beware of "publishers" who offer to compose music or ask a fee for publication of a song.

To copyright a poem or song, promptly after publication send two copies of the best edition to the Copyright Office, Library of

Congress, Washington, D. C., with application for registration and a \$2 registration fee.

To Mrs. B. B., seeking music writer—study and investigate the book, New York Song Publishers.

Poetry magazines and most women's magazines publish poetry. Minimum \$1 prizes for each poem accepted are provided by the American Weave, 1559 E. 115th St., Cleveland, and Chaparral Voices, Crescenta Valley Ledger, Montrose, Cal.

Improve your technique in poetry and music in college and extension division classes.

I Just Want Dates

I AM A GIRL of 15. In all my 15 years I've only had one date.

When we got where we were going he left me for a bunch of boy friends.

In school all the boys talk to me and seem friendly, especially when I've got my work ahead and they haven't. But when it comes to going to school dances, parties, etc., I go with my girl friend and her date.

I don't consider myself beautiful or ugly, I'm not extra thin or fat—I am just right, everyone says. If I am just right, why can't I get a date with any one?

I don't want to go steady—I just want to go to school parties.

In "all your 15 years" you weren't ready for dates until now—you haven't lost out. I'm glad that you're a good student—but maybe you're too wise around the boys. They care more about your looks, dancing and "line" than they do about your mind. Let them get their own lessons.

No one is "just right" or as "right" as possible. Get at those flaws in your appearance and personality—make improvements and expand your knowledge at school and among adults. Let the boys think they are wiser than you.

Childless Couple Seek Advice

SOME TIME ago you mentioned a clinic where childless couples can go for advice. Where is it located and are its facilities available to persons willing and able to pay? Is it necessary for Indianapolis residents to make an appointment?

If you're seeking medical advice on why you don't have children contact Maternal Health Center, Catholic Charities Bureau, or your own doctor.

Regarding adoptions, visit Marion County Department of Public Welfare, the Children's Bureau of the Indianapolis Orphans Home, Catholic Charities Bureau, Lutheran Child Welfare Association, Jewish Family Society or Suenma Coleman Home. Call these places before you go.

Let Mrs. Manners and readers of the column share your problems and answer your questions. Write in care of The Times, 214 W. Maryland St.

1300 Stowaways Enter U. S. in '47

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 (UP)—Rep. John M. Robison (R., Ky.) said yesterday the number of stowaways attempting to enter this country illegally is five times greater than in the past two or three years.

Mr. Robison said it is estimated that 1300 stowaways entered American ports last year.

Witnesses at a hearing before House Judiciary Subcommittee agreed the problem is serious but opposed tightening existing controls.

U. S. Scientists Find Ancient Alphabets

CAIRO, Jan. 22 (UP)—An American scientific expedition was reported today to have found readable examples of the oldest known ancestor of European and Semitic alphabets.

Prof. W. F. Albright of Johns Hopkins University said he had discovered inscriptions left by ancient miners in a turquoise mine in the biblical Mount Sinai area.

The mine was last operated between the 11th and 12th centuries B. C., he said, and the inscriptions are believed to be at least 300 years older.

U. S. Ready To Hike Price Of Grapefruit

Earmarks \$6 Million To Halt Declines

By EARL RICHERT

Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22—When

grapefruit prices rise at your grocery soon, blame the government—which says officially it is fighting high prices.

The Agriculture Department is all set to pour out \$6 million to prop up falling grapefruit prices by buying canned grapefruit juice.

Department officials say this is necessary to keep several million boxes of grapefruit from being left unharvested because of low prices.

Last year, however, when there also was a world food shortage the department did no buying, although four million boxes of grapefruit were left unharvested.

Congressmen Eye Votes

But this is an election year and Congressmen from the citrus regions have pressured the Agriculture Department into buying grapefruit juice to benefit the growers.

The Agriculture Department is not commanded by law to support grapefruit prices, as is the case with eggs, potatoes, wheat and other commodities.

Department officials say they think government buying will cause only a slight increase in retail grapefruit prices but say it may double the prices being received by growers.

Average grapefruit prices to growers dropped from \$1.09 a box on Oct. 15 to 40 cents a box on Dec. 15.

Admit It's Too Much

The 80-pound box for which the grower received 40 cents last month—cost the city consumer about \$3.60 a box. The cost of picking and packing averages \$2.25 a box.

The \$6 million worth of grapefruit juice which the government expects to buy admittedly is too much to be palmed off on the school-lunch program and department officials are hoping to get much of it used for foreign aid.

The Agriculture Department of its own volition also has been aiding the California raisin and prune industry in a big way.



NOT RIVIERA BUT RIVIERA CLUB—Sunny smiles make sunny climes—a bit of "June in January" right here in Indianapolis when Riviera Club swimmers (left to right) Sue Gastineau, Linda Woods and Pat Holland don suits with an "eye" toward the Olympic tryouts in Detroit next July.

Rail Wrecks Kill 214 in 12 Months

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 (UP)—

More persons were killed in railroad accidents and "more serious" accidents occurred in the 12 months ending June 30, 1947, than in the previous 12 months, the Interstate Commerce Commission reported.

In its annual report to Congress, the commission said that nine more persons were killed in railroad crashes between July 1, 1946, and June 30, 1947, than in the preceding 12 months.

The commission said that 214

persons were killed and 2984 injured in the 12 months. However, the number of injured decreased sharply.

UGLY BUT POPULAR

ATLANTA, Ga. (UP)—James M. Galey, Georgia Tech senior from

Pensacola, Fla., is president of the student chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers, president of the Chi Epsilon honorary

fraternity, business manager of the Georgia Tech Engineer, treasurer of the Bulldog Club, and president of the Kappa Sigmas. He also was voted another title—Ugliest Man on

the Campus.

Hoosier Legion To Urge UMT On Capital Trip

Advocates Change in Surplus Housing Law

A delegation from the Indiana

Department of the American Legion will place its views on universal military training before Hoosier members of Congress tomorrow in Washington.

The Legion, which is urging passage of military training legislation by Congress in the present session, also will voice its objections to the laws covering the purchase of surplus housing units.

Seek Change in Laws

The present laws permit speculators to buy surplus housing ahead of G. I.s. State Commander Harold E. Morris said, and the Legion wants those laws changed to give the veteran a better chance to buy any remaining surplus units.

Headed by Mr. Morris, members making the trip to Washington are Donald Spurrier, Whiting, department defense chairman; Ralph B. Gregg, Indianapolis, national judge advocate; George N. Craig, Brazil, national executive committeeman, and William E. Sayer, Indianapolis, department adjutant.

Greener to Head Good Friday Group

William J. Greener will serve as

the chairman of the interdenominational 1948 Good Friday Committee to make March 26 "A Reverent Good Friday."

Mr. Greener was elected chairman of the 20-year-old committee yesterday at its luncheon meeting in the YMCA. The committee, composed of longtime Catholic and Protestant friends, strives to make Indianapolis outstanding for its observance of the days immediately preceding Easter.

George C. Joslin is the vice chairman of the committee and the Rev. Harold H. Hazenfield, secretary. New committee members include G. E. Carrier, E. C. Belser, the Rev. Benton E. Miller and the Rev. Fr. Richard Grogan.

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