

Ask Mrs. Manners—

Husband Steps Out,
Wife's Trust Fades

DEAR MRS. MANNERS:

I URGED my husband to play poker on Friday nights with "the boys"—but he wasn't WITH "the boys." He said he stepped out because I was cold to him.

I got busy and changed—but quick. He said the affair was nothing, and all that stuff that men usually hand out to their wives. He said I'd always been the only one and still was, and that as long as I stayed like I am now no one could even tempt him.

I'm resentful and have lost some of my love and all of my trust for him. Why should he get off easy and let me take me for an easy mark? Maybe he is just smoothing things over and will go out again.

It would tickle me to see him get caught in an embarrassing situation and have to squirm and feel ashamed. He thinks he is so smart that no one knows it. If I had the nerve, I'd arrange a situation he'd have to work to get out of. What he needs is a good lesson so the next time he won't be so anxious.

Is this a phase that women go through, or am I completely out of love with him? Am I just a mean, bitter woman? I know that I should forget and try to build something worthwhile—but I wonder if he's worth it. Maybe I do love him but just want to get the best of him. I've been so utterly decent during my married life, and before, too, that I don't feel he realizes what he has. It should mean a lot to a man to have a woman he can trust. All this sordid life is more than I can take.

WEST SIDE READER.

Whether it's our mother instinct that makes us feel free to dole out punishment for misdemeanors, or our inability to stuff off our frets physically, we women are vengeful. I don't blame you a bit for being steamed up but the best way to defeat that husband you'll love again is to stay ahead of him.

Staying ahead means you have to act sure of yourself, and to be sure of yourself you'll have to try to right the wrong he felt you did him. Taking your spite out on your husband would only make you unhappy, because, added to a broken marriage, you'd have a bad conscience for making mistakes which you must feel you made or you wouldn't have changed.

Ending ahead, not getting even for your husband's one mistake, and staying ahead is what you want.

Boy Friend Is Bossy

I'm 22 and go with a fellow, 23, I think a lot of. But I don't know he I love him. He tries to run my life. He tells me where to go, picks my friends, and tells me how to dress. I'm sick of it. He tells me I'm too common. I want to quit him, but can't.

He gets mad if I'm not ready on time, yet he has stood me up three times. Should I take all this stuff he is handing out or find someone who is more considerate? Nothing I do pleases him.

MOODY CITY.

You have a man's approval only when he asks you to marry him—and marry you soon. If he doesn't respect you and you don't enjoy his company, there's little reason to date him. If I thought I might be a little "common" I'd change, whether he's around, or not.

Why 'Nice Girls' Fail

WHY DO nice girls lose their husbands to women the husbands admit are bad? Why do they lose them when they're affectionate, patient, agreeable, attractive, neat, not extravagant, loyal, ready to admit faults and make corrections, ready to go out or stay home as wished by the husband; when they're fond of their in-laws; when they're moderate drinkers and smokers, fair housekeepers, good cooks, and employed through necessity?

R. H. M. Sometimes the woman said to be bad appears very attractive because she's understanding. She overlooks other people's faults, knowing she has many of her own. A wife who thinks she's perfect because her husband doesn't hurt her by telling her of her faults often gets a little smug. She may be affectionate—in her way—she may be agreeable, but not entertaining. She may appear so perfect he thinks he can't reach her. Away goes his ego—and away goes the husband.

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

Your Job—
Seeks Return
To Factory WorkNow Has Cleaning
Job at Night

By JAMES GRAYSON

During the war, I had a good job in one of the local defense plants. I am now a cleaning woman working at night in an office building. I would like to get back into factory work. Have you any suggestions?

As you know, factory work now is not like it was during the war. From your letter I assume that you worked for one employer only during that period. It is likely that this plant is no longer making the same product it did then and that it has no need for workers to do what you did then.

Had you ever thought of going to your former employer and applying for a job similar to the one you have now? If you had a good work record there, and it is still in their files, you no doubt would get a good interview at least. If you apply for the kind of work you are now doing this would give you a basis for an interview.

Working at night now, you would already be broken in on a night job. This was all he had to offer. The important thing is to get into an organization and then later try to get changed over into a better job. After the executives have had a chance to see you in action.

When you recall the time-killing you observed during those hectic war days, you can appreciate an employer's reluctance to employ an ex-defense worker. Factory production in many companies is now faster and more efficient than it was then. Unless the plant kept good records or some foreman can remember you, the employer might want to see how you work before he offers you anything worthwhile. That is why I suggest janitress work to get you in. Then you can gradually work into a better job if such is practical.

If it is not possible to get back with your old employer, I suggest you check the opportunities near your home.

Make some trips around town and put in your application in person. Explain that you will take any shift or any kind of work which you can handle. If you live close by, call attention to it.

Some of these job opportunities have grown up right near the homes of a lot of workers. Maybe some of them are near you.

Your Marriage: By Samuel and Esther Kling—
Many Ways for Divorcee
To Lose Out on Alimony

Q—Are wives entitled to alimony under all circumstances?
A—No. To be entitled to alimony, a wife must prove that she is the innocent party in a divorce action. If her husband obtains a decree, she will not receive any alimony at all.

While it is true that four out of every five divorces are procured by women, this does not mean that the husband is necessarily the wrong-doer. Many men permit their wives to obtain the decree only with the written understanding that the wife will waive all her rights to alimony and support.

But even where the wife is entitled to a court allowance, the amount awarded is often a disappointment. As a rule, courts allow between one-fourth and one-third of the husband's income. If the man makes \$100 a week, for example, the wife may receive between \$25 and \$35 a week, hardly a sum luxurious enough to retire on.

She may even have trouble collecting this amount awarded. Should the husband's earning power decrease, her income will also decrease. If he loses his job, she may be cut off without a cent for weeks or even months at a time.

Many husbands, again, are often in arrears in their payments. Of course, the wife can have her former spouse hauled into court and thrown into jail, but if she does that she is simply killing the goose that supplies her with the golden eggs.

Q—How else can a wife lose out on alimony?

A—There are always unscrupulous men who evade alimony altogether by fleeing the court's jurisdiction. If a wife has been awarded alimony in one state, and her husband moves into another state, the chances that the husband will be forced to pay alimony are extremely remote. Most jurisdictions, in fact, refuse to go to the trouble and expense of returning a delinquent husband. Many states, indeed, will take action only if the wife puts up the necessary money to extradite her former spouse. Of course, if he has moved to another state,

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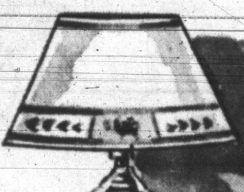
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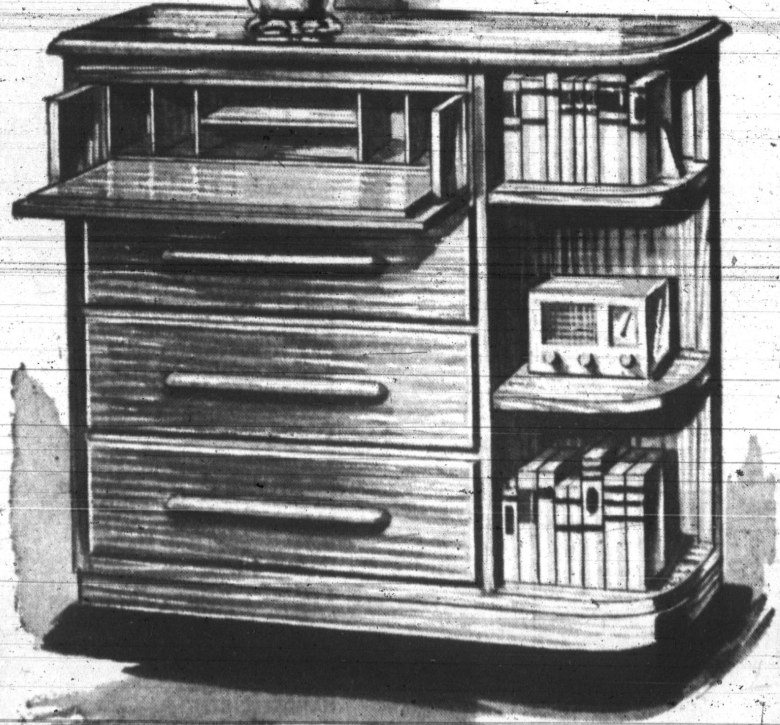
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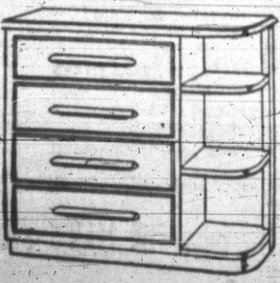


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