

## The Diary of an Engaged Girl

By Phyllis Phillips

May 16.—Less than three weeks to my wedding day now. How time does fly! I am glad to say that I managed to finish my head of Jean yesterday. It was really very well done—even if I do say so. The gang down at the studio seems to become more and more mournful—as the time for my new venture draws near. I never realized that I had become so dear to them. It makes me feel so strange, and as if I were dropping out of the frame somehow. Jean says that if she ever does marry, and she feels sure that she will not, it will not be a day before she is thirty. She says a woman changes her mind and tastes, ten times and more, before that age, and that if she does marry earlier she may expect to be ready to change her husband by that time, even if she does not do so. She pointed out that the fact that she may want to change and cannot, or does not, is one of the great tragedies of life. Goodness, it makes me shudder to think of what I may be unsuspectingly committing by marrying at nineteen.

I tried mother out on this same subject, not for enlightenment, of course, but merely to see how her mind ran on such a thing. She threw back her head and laughed at the very idea. Mother has such an uncomplicated sort of a mind. She thinks steadily in one stream and has thought just the same way ever since she was nineteen! I must put it down to her being unmodern, that explains it. She is of the opinion that once a girl is married, has babies, worries and her home to manage, she has very little time to sit down and pensively reflect on her lot, good or bad. A husband, to her, becomes like a pet corn—he sticks to one. She assures me that father long ago became a "habit" with her, and a very good one too, that I might well copy! Then she began to tell me about poor Aunt Cecilia all over again; how she had ruined her life and future by excessive pondering over the same question. She told me something that I had never known before, that Aunt Cecilia had once wanted to go on the stage, was beautiful and, through her own high handedness had lost her lover because of her refusal to see things through his eyes (as all girls should, according to mother) and promise never to think about the stage again. In fact he wanted her to concentrate entirely upon being his fiancée, and the future mother of his children, etc. Well, it

seems that Aunt Cecilia was just spunky enough, and maybe ambitious enough, to resent any such ultimatum, and consequently, they parted forever. Personally, I think she is better off than she would have been as the meek wife of such a prune. My opinion of her went up one hundred per cent. A halo loomed large about her dear old head, and I made up my mind that after all she had touched elbows with romance, even as you and I, and was to be highly honored for her strength of character. No one can ever tell what lies in the lives and hearts of old maids, anyhow. We are all worms, and cannot dare to judge a human being.

I hate to think of father, with his wonderful smile, and his dashing figure, as anything so commonplace as a "habit," even though a "very good one." Somehow or other it seems to cast a reflection on his strong individuality. I wonder if he has ever suspected that mother felt that way towards him? Maybe, if so, that would account for his being away from home so much! Maybe he too has a dual personality. If so, it may have been wished on him, for no man can stand being underrated, I am sure.

Jack simply sniffs and hugs me hard when I test him out on this same subject. Tells me to ask myself that

question when I have been Mrs. Jack three months. Sounds sort of self-satisfied to me—but then I am prepared for anything after I am Mrs. Nothing shall feaze me, of that I am determined.

(To be continued.)

## Heart Problems

My Dear Mrs. Thompson: I am 18 years old and I want to get married, but I have not any beau. Do you know of any nice man I can marry. I love a man but he goes with another girl. Please answer my question. Yours truly,

(Centerville).  
My Dear Miss: Time was when a girl of 18 was becoming a grown-up woman who should be hurried off into matrimony to avoid "old maidship." But that time, fortunately, is passed. It is absolutely dead. They have learned it is much better to do some work to help push the world along—perhaps go to school—and at least not marry until they have had some of the real pleasures of the "successfully single." Don't marry until you are 24 or 25 years old, then you'll probably know more about whom you really want to marry. The lad you have in mind now will doubtless not be the one you wish when you have seen some of life and independence. I should be very foolish to suggest a man for a girl of 18 to wed.

Dear Mrs. Thompson: I am not far from 30 years old and have kept house

for my father for more than 10 years. We have a very good home and my father is good to me. I enjoy home and the privileges of home very much. But I do not have any money for clothes or to spend on little things, except by slowly using a small inheritance I have received. It seems to me the inheritance should be saved instead of my being forced to spend it.

It is a case of choosing whether I shall leave home and make my own way or to stay at home and do without clothes and hardly look respectable. Which do you think the better way?

BACHELOR GIRL.  
I think it would do you good to leave your home and work. The experience you would gain in the business would be refreshing and would lift you out of a rut into which you

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have probably fallen from spending too much time in the home.

While your father is living you are contented in the home, but when the time comes that he must leave you, you will be grateful for the absorbing interest which office work will furnish. Besides, when you get out among people and have more opportunity to meet men you will probably marry.

Dear Mrs. Thompson: I am a girl 17 years of age and am engaged to a young man four years my senior. I

like him very much and my folks also are very fond of him. Would you advise me to marry him if I wait another year?

A READER.  
I would certainly advise you to wait another year. At the end of that time you can be sure or doubtful of your affections and act accordingly.

## Eyes Inflamed?

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## Bachelor Girl Sayings

By Helen Rowland

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"As you were," said the Beauty specialist—and behold, it is done. At twenty, it is his love of love; at thirty, his love of adventure; at forty, his love of comradeship; and at fifty, his love of amusement—but each time, a man always mistakes it for his love of a woman.

It takes several trained nurses, a lot of tutors, and a college full of professors to equip the average educated youth—to marry a chorus girl.

A man mentally is so ambidextrous, that he can read his newspaper with one set of brain cells, while he carries on a conversation with his wife with another set.

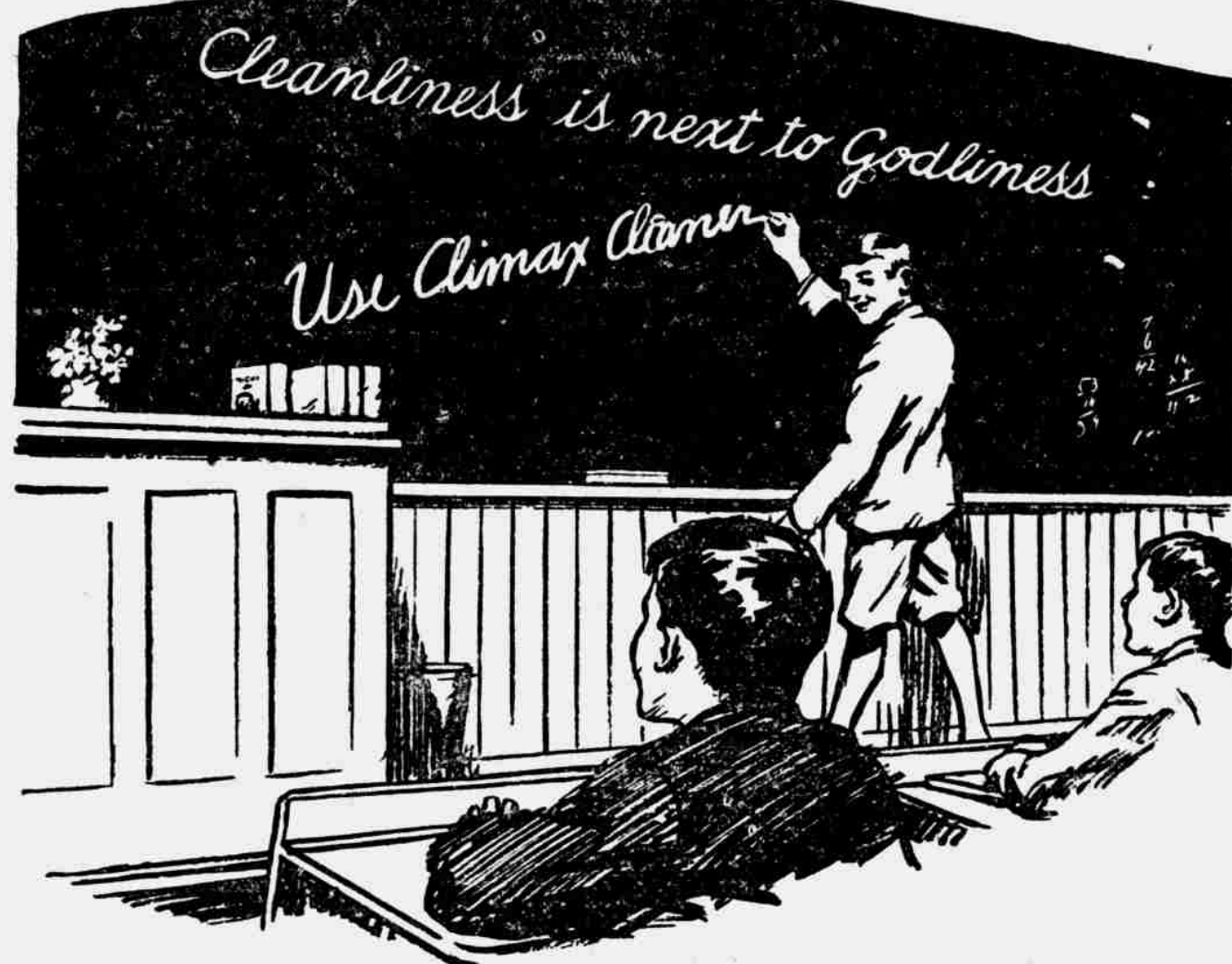
A woman's guesses as to what is detaining her husband, when he is "working late at the office" have been reduced from four to three, since prohibition. The only ones left are a poker game, another woman—and the bare possibility of course, that he MAY be "working late at the office."

Though every other charm may fade, a woman can still work the charm of Circé, with a beautiful voice and an eternal smile.

Everybody loves a lover—especially the florist, the confectioner, the jeweler, the taxi-chauffeur and the restaurateur!

So long as he keeps within the law, a man may break the commandments as lightly as he would a lover's vow, but a woman may far more safely break all the laws, than one social convention.

Love your enemies as a fat woman loves hers—sugar, ice cream, bon-bons and cream puddings.



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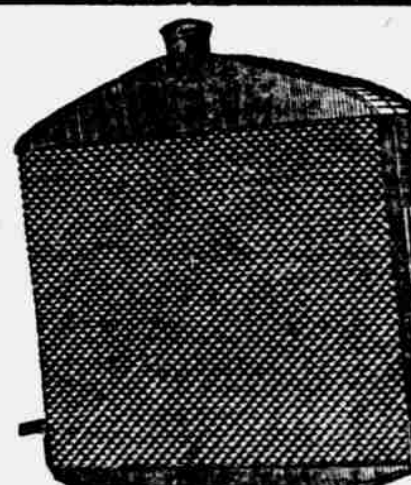
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