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

SHOULD A WOMAN PAY?

Dear Miss Flo:—Don't you think a woman, with any sense of economic independence, should pay her own way when she goes out with a man she knows is not earning as much as she? All the girls are laughing at me because I insist upon paying my own way with such men. They say men invitably think less of a girl who accepts their companionship on that basis. On principle, I'd feel like a gold digger if I permitted a man in that class to spend mony on me.

Of course, the boys all object to my independence, and invariably we quarrel about it, but I simply can't stand the idea of being under obligations to anybody. I want to be independent and take care of myself. Dora.

* * *

Far be it from me to say whether or not you are right in carrying your spirit of independence so far. While personally, I'd like to see the idea popularized—I have my doubts if it ever can be done.

You see, in theory, men really do admire that extremely rare feminine trait—Independence. They like to declare their principles that a woman should stand shoulder to shoulder with a man, doing her share, and not hang like a mill-stone around his neck. They sincerely believe they have more respect for the woman who earns her own way—and insists upon earning it, if necessary, even after marriage. They have no use, in theory, for the clinging vine type. They admire the sturdy, self-reliant, self-sufficient, independent women like you. But—have you ever noticed those self-reliant women usually have to be self-reliant, fight alone, work alone, walk alone, live alone, and eventually even play alone, while some tiny, slim, satin-skinned girl, with huge eyes, and a cunning lisp, is surrounded with men anxious to obey her slightest whim—actually begging to be permitted to protect her from the cold, heartless world? As a matter of fact, those are the very girls who need no protection—they always take care of themselves. The more absolutely "feminine" woman is, the more determined she is that some man shall take care of her—and she is the little grafter who gets the best of this world's goods. The really frail woman is the sturdy, square and sportsmanlike one, who scorns to take advantage of a man because he loves her or is married to her—the women who are too decent to stick up for their 'rights.' Oh, no, men don't know a lot about woman's nature, and sad and disheartening though it may be, I've come to the conclusion that men don't especially admire independence in women.

It's the nature of man to dictate and be foremost. They'd rather do without lunch all week than have the girl they take out for dinner pay her own check—or refuse to allow him to buy her flowers. That's that—and human nature being what it is—you can't expect to change it.

I'm not advocating that women be parasites or gold-diggers in the slightest degree. Independence is a most admirable quality—but it can be carried too far.

Ralph, Lloyd and Rex Riggins, trading as Ralph Riggin and Brothers, canners, of Crisfield, Md., were fined $25 and costs Monday by Judge Morris A. Soper, in the United States District Court for violation of the National Pure Food and Drugs Act.

They were charged with giving short measure in oysters shipped to Washington and St. Louis dealers in cans marked "One Gallon Net," the offense coming under the misbranding section of the law covering interstate commerce.

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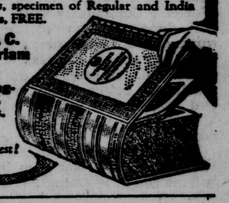
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5.00 P. M.	7.00 P. M.

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