TOO FRIVOLOUS

By STANLEY CORDELL

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AT FIFTY-TWO Noel Winthrop became a self-appointed member of that vast and pitiable army of misunderstood husbands.

Noel had achieved an early success in life, and possessed a tidy fortune to prove it.

He had also achieved a noticeable bulge at his waistline, tufts of gray hairs behind his ears, a bald spot and an occasional touch of rheumatism. But for all this Noel wasn't old, or thought he wasn't.

He didn't feel like settling down and enjoying his wealth as most self-respecting men of fifty-two might be expected to do.

He didn't like golf or bridge or stilted parties or even a moderate amount of travel.

He had been a stern, hard-thinking business man all his life and he wanted to be—well, frivolous.

Noel's wife, Erla, was in favor of the quiet retirement.

Erla was large and capable and sensible.

She had married Noel when he was a clerk in an advertising agency office.

She had stood by him through a great many crises, had advised and comforted and suggested.

Rightfully enough she felt that credit for at least part of his success was due her.

She felt, too, that she knew what was best for her husband.

And that was the crux of the whole thing.

That was why Noel felt that he was misunderstood—because Erla wanted him to retire and live a quiet life, because she didn't think he ought to be—well, frivolous.

Noel grieved over the matter, brooded over it, pitied himself and eventually decided that he wouldn't retire from business. No, sir. He'd continue going down to the office every day.

Most anything was better than staying at home under his wife's wing.

Erla didn' object.

On the contrary she agreed that in these trying times the office probably needed him.

There wasn't much for Noel to do (the office routine had long since been entrusted to younger and capable hands); he found plenty of time to sit around and talk to people, and to notice Miss Clow.

He had, in fact, been noticing Miss Clow for some time.

She had been employed by the office manager a month before to assist Miss Fisher, who was Noel's personal secretary.

There was something about her that made Noel feel he wasn't old at all. Not even fifty-two.

She had a heart-shaped face and dazzlingly attractive eyes, and sometimes the way she looked at him when he asked her a question made Noel remember the days of his youth when he was good looking and considered somewhat of a lady killer.

Obviously, he thought that charm which had made him that once had not left him.

Miss Clow had been attracted by it; there was no mistaking the admiration and distant, modestly concealed worship in her eyes.

Noel twiddled his mustache and thought.

It occured to him that here was a girl of intelligence, a girl to whom he would enjoy talking, one who understood him and appreciated his qualities, one who didn't think him old and doddering and ready for the shelf.

Yes, he was sure that Miss Clow would be like that.

He knew women, did Noel.

It took a lot of courage for Noel finally to get around to mentioning to Miss Clow what was on his mind, and he made a rather clumsy job of it.

But what little embarrassment he may have felt was instantly dispelled by Miss Clow's round-eyed and emphatic response.

"Why, Mr. Winthrop, I'd just love to go out to dinner with you! I think it would be wun-der-ful!"

Noel called Erla on the phone and told her he wouldn't be home because he had to entertain a client at dinner.

Then he went down to the club, changed into the tuxedo he always kept there, hired a taxi and drove to the corner where he had arranged to meet Miss Clow.

She was waiting, and she insisted that they walk to the night club.

It was such a nice night and she just loved to walk, she told him.

Then she tucked her arm in his and Noel, even at fifty-two, felt a thrill.

They walked an extra two blocks to reach their destination, and Noel thought it was because Miss Clow wanted to be alone with him.

He thought so even when she stopped abreast of a women's dress shop window with an exclamation of wonder and awe.

The object of the exclamation was, of course, a dress.

A wistful look came into Miss Clow's eyes.

It pleased Noel, gave him a feeling of superiority and self-confidence to promise her that on the morrow the dress would be hers. And when she squeezed his arm and laughed delightedly he received thrill No. 2.

The night club was crowded; they had to stand in the foyer for fifteen minutes before getting a table.

And Noel, already beginning to feel a little stiff from the long walk, eased himself into his seat with a little suppressed groan of relief.

The stiffness, however, was forgotten when Miss Clow began to order.

He marvelled that such a tiny girl could want so many things to eat all at once.

It amused him and he laughed.

The champagne came and hey drank a toast to each other.

Noel glanced around, smacked his lips and felt a warm glow of contentment.

Here was life, gayety, youth, the sort of thing he wanted and needed.

This was—well, being frivolous.

The orchestra began to play and Miss Clow began hopping around in her seat.

"Oh, let's dance!" she exclaimed. "Let's do!"

But Noel smiled and shook his head.

"Let's wait for a waltz," he suggested. "These new dances—well, I'm not used to them."

But Miss Clow didn't want to wait, and when she saw a boy at a nearby table whom she knew, she smiled at him and he came over and asked Noel if he might dance with Miss Clow.

Noel winced.

The boy was the son of a business acquaintance, and the business acquaintance was only fifty-one!

Noel drank some more champagne, and when the next number was played he got to his feet with something like grim determination written in his eyes.

"Let's dance," he said to Miss Clow.

And Miss Clow looked a little frightened; she looked as if she hadn't expected that Noel would go that far. But she assented, and Noel swept her out on the floor.

"Swept" is the proper word, for when Noel danced he required space, and woe be to any unfortunate who got in his path.

They circled the floor once and then Noel got a twinge. A sort of sinking sensation took hold of him.

He remembered his rheumatism and recognized the symptoms.

The twinge repeated itself.

One knee buckled and then straightened again.

Noel suddenly became aware that people were staring at him and grinning.

It made him mad and he hung on to Miss Clow quite desperately.

The same knee buckled again.

At the moment they were lumbering past a mirror and Noel caught a glimpse of himself. The glimpse revealed a doddering, baldheaded old man whose clothes didn't fit him very well and whose knees seemed to be giving way.

It required several minutes before he realized that the reflection was that of himself; that the slip of a girl who was clutched in his arms was Miss Clow.

The thought flashed across his mind that Miss Clow was young enough to be his daughter, but probably had been mistaken for his granddaughter.

Breathing heavily and with sweat pouring down his cheeks, Noel gained the sanctity of his table and sat down.

He glanced at Miss Clow and glanced away again.

From the corner of his eye he could see people looking and grinning.

Erla was waiting up, as always, when Noel finally arrived home.

One look at him and she went running for mustard and hot water and towels.

She scolded mercilessly while helping him get undressed, but for once the scolding was exactly what he wanted to hear.

He eased his feet into the basin of hot water with a great groan of relief, and smiled up at his wife.

"Erla," he said happily, "did I ever tell you you were the most wonderful, beautiful, understanding—"

But Erla cut him short with an impatient gesture. "Oh, Noel, act sensible. Don't be so—well, frivolous."

First to Say "I Came," Etc.

Julius Caesar in a letter to Amantius, announcing his victory over Pharnaces at Zela in Pontus, 47 B. C., was the first to say "I came, I saw, I conquered." In Latin it was "Veni, Vidi, Vici."

New Suits Stress Color Alliance

By CHERIE NICHOLAS

MORE than ever the spring fashion picture is going strong for suits. Somewhere in the current collections "your suit" is holding forth, waiting only for you to come and get it. Which is by way of telling you that the styling of suit costumes is so diversified this season you can depend upon being perfectly "suited" in that the fashions for spring and summer 1938 include models typed to every individuality.

Suits that lead in the style parade come out definitely in favor of color. Which is most significant news and should be kept in mind when choosing the new spring outfit. Even more newsy is the fact that many of the smartest suit costumes favor two colors rather than one. They highlight, for instance, such intriguing combinations as raspberry and navy, maple or brown and beige, gold color with black, or they contrast a pale blue woolen with red fox trim and so on.

It's going to be tremendously interesting to go suit hunting this spring for just such stunning models as here pictured are typical of what you will be shown throughout your quest in the better shops and departments. The three-piece costume suit to the left makes two-color its theme in a dramatic styling of black nubby wool combined with the same wool weave in the striking gold color that is so new and so fashionable just now. Notice how intriguingly the patch pockets are decorated with black in conventional design. The black breton hat worn with this suit is the bowl type that is so favored at present.

A message of utmost importance as told by the Style Creators in Chicago in the wholesale district via an illuminating prevue of spring and summer fashions is the favor expressed for suits tailored of pastel woolens, such as grayish blues and the once old-fashioned and now new-fashioned "old rose," and a list of soft lovely muted shades might be cited. Seen to the right in the picture is a charming two-piece costume suit tailored of fine wool fabric in a beguiling light blue. The fur is red fox. You'll love the color combination. The dress has cutout embroidery on the blouse.

For the new suits the dominant silhouette is square shouldered, straight and decidedly boxy in line. This trend is seen in dressy as well as casual models, the chief distinction being a matter of fabrics and ornamental details. Quilting, embroidery and fur trimming distinguish costumes in the dressy category while contrasting appliques and novelty fabrics highlight the casual types. Of greater prominence than in any recent season is the tuxedo front employed on innumerable garments from full length coats to jackets ending at the hip.

Many suits are of fabrics that favor pencil stripes, checks small or large, lightweight tweeds that are nubbed or flecked, some in gay plaids, others herringbone or diagonals and there's a list of colorful airy homespuns shown.

From the signs that tell, it's a navy spring. With navy in the lead a promenade of colors follows that include many not seen for years such as forget-me-not blue, ashes of roses, purple, moss pink, lilac fuchsia and so on. Other colors on their second wind of popularity include aqua, gold, chartreuse, flag blue, bright red, also some dubonnet.

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CONTRAST JACKET

By CHERIE NICHOLAS

Emphasis is on English walking suits of the type pictured. Indeed the costume that tops a skirt of handsome plain wool with a jacket that is tailored of colorfully plaided wool that assumes a very British air in its many-pocket detail and general feeling of superior workmanship and material has become quite an idol of fashion for town and country wear among the smart set. The stores are showing similarly styled two-pieces in dashing color combinations.

TRAILER CLOTHES NEW FASHION THEME

By CHERIE NICHOLAS

Now that that there is an increasing enthusiasm shown for trailer travel, a new phase of fashion challenges the creative genius of designers. Here's describing the latest or shall we say earliest in trailer outfits as displayed at the spring style revue recently presented at the Merchandise Mart in Chicago. Practical and at the same time very attractive mattress ticking denim was the wise fabric choice for this utility outfit. The overalls with zipper in front are backless above the waist, and there is a little boxy jacket to complete the ensemble. It's a perfect outfit to wear when you go trailering.

Color of Frock Trim Is Often Picked Up for Hat

For afternoon, often the color of its trim is picked up to make a bright felt hat that rises in any direction that proves becoming. Braid trim may be repeated on a hat, sequins often make the top of a flat crown, ribbons follow the dress trim or cutouts of the dress fabric are appliqued onto the edge of a long veil.

Sports hats worn with tweed and dark wool suits follow the bright tones of blouses, the crowns taking a high, tapering line. Berets are adapted for all occasions—there are high, stovepipe crowns and fan-shaped brims rising from the front or back of turban-shaped hats.

Concealed Heels

Concealed heels are one of the latest contrivances for adding inches to the size of small women, and men as well. Built snugly into the inside of the shoe, they provide the desired height without affecting the outer contours in any way.

Popular Sports of Earlier Days Are Recorded in Old Prints

Ice skating and iceboat sailing were two popular winter sports of American life in the latter half of the Nineteenth century, writes Thomas H. Ormsbee in the American Collector, and both were recorded in the prints of the day. "The Union Pond" (Williamsburgh, L. I.) was issued by Thomas & Eno, New York, and is typical of a number that were published by lithographers. This one is of particular interest. Although it is not signed by the artist, careful study of drawing and technique makes it proper to ascribe it to the artist Winslow Homer, and as such it is an excellent example of his early print work.

Sports were not neglected in the comic prints, particularly those drawn by Thomas Worth and published by Currier & Ives. In their catalogue of comics they listed fifty-eight horse pictures, fifteen with a prizefight setting, five showing a baseball game and four with bicycling as the sport. In the Darkytown series six have to do with tennis, six with bicycling, four with yachting, four concern horse racing, two have football as the theme and several others poke fun at what were then minor sports.

Finally, in the lithographed political cartoons of the period, the setting is occasionally that of sports. One of the earliest, "Settling the French Question," by James Akin, Philadelphia, about 1840, shows President Andrew Jackson as a prizefighter ready to do battle with the French king over payments to the United States for damages during the Napoleonic wars. Another prizefight setting shows Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis.

London Tops in River Ports

London ranks as first of the world's river ports. The earliest exports there were grain, dog skins and slaves.

Late Tips From World Centers of Fashion

Never were hats so charming.

Culottes are staging a return to fashion.

Knitted boleros with brightly colored designs are favorites.

Untrimmed daytime coats of semi-tailored design are shown for spring in Paris.

Veils on the new hats are much more important around the face and shoulders than on the hat proper.

Inverted plaits in the bodice are a novelty.

Jackets in gay contrast is new suit formula.

Draped silk afternoon dresses are being seen in smart Parisian hotels and restaurants.

Many of the new spring hats, designed to compliment the new high coiffures, are lavishly bedecked with flowers.

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL

SUNDAY SCHOOL Lesson

By REV. HAROLD L. LUNDQUIST, Dean of the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.

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Lesson for March 6

SERVING WITH WHAT WE HAVE

LESSON TEXT—Mark 6:1-13.
GOLDEN TEXT—Such as I have give I thee.—Acts 3:6.
PRIMARY TOPIC—When Jesus Went Home to Nazareth.
JUNIOR TOPIC—On a Journey for Jesus.
INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—Serving With What We Have.
YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—Serving With What We Have.

One of the difficulties we mortals face in dealing with spiritual things is that we interpret things in the realm of the spirit according to the principles and measurements of the physical world. We are quick to say "We cannot" on the basis of logical human reasoning, when an appreciation of the power of God operative on our behalf would enable us to say "We can," and having left God out of our thinking we find that indeed we cannot.

The lesson before us presents two pictures from our Lord's second visit to his home country, Nazareth. On His first visit they had tried to thrust Him over the precipice, and He in all the glory and poise of the Son of God had walked through their midst and gone His way. Now He comes again with His disciples. We then see how His home folk virtually made the power of the omnipotent God impotent because of their unbelief. On the other hand we see the weakness of men made mighty because of obedience to the command of God.

I. The Paralysis of Unbelief (vv. 1-6).

The world, the flesh, and the devil have brought forth a dark list of wicked things, but perhaps the most destructive and distressing of all is the foundation sin of unbelief. When we think back to the underlying reason for any sin or weakness in man it will be found that there is a failure to believe God. Men do not believe what He says about sin and its penalty, nor do they believe Him when He offers them grace and strength for victory.

At Nazareth the unbelief which limited the Son of God revealed itself in two questions—

1. "Whence hath this man these things?" (v. 2).

They could not deny His mighty works so they turn their attack on His person. "Is not this the carpenter?" (v. 3). Essentially this was envy, "the difficulty of acknowledging the superiority over themselves of one of their own number . . . It is a part of humanity's inherent vulgarity . . . of humanity's contempt for itself, in which humanity imagines that it thinks highly of itself; the inability to believe that the man who worked by our side could ever be our teacher" (Morgan).

We are ashamed of the attitude of the men of Nazareth, but we follow in their footsteps. Heavy among the burdens a Christian worker must bear is the unbelief and ridicule of his own people. Because a man has sold us groceries, or painted our house or driven a taxi in our town we cannot see how he could ever be a preacher or a missionary. Well, he can, and it is such folk that God often calls. Let it not be said of your town that "a prophet is not without honor, but in his own country, and among his own kin" (v. 4).

2. "What is this wisdom?" (v. 2). The wisdom of Jesus was the wisdom of God (John 7:16). But how could they know that? How can we know? In John 7:17 Jesus gave the answer: "If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself." We see then that the reason for their unbelief was really an unwillingness to do the will of God. The controlling motive of their life was wrong. Had they been moved by a desire to do God's will, and a purpose to live in accordance therewith (even though there might have been failure in that earnest effort), they would have known that Jesus had His wisdom from God.

The principle is just as true today; no man will long be in doubt who really wants to do God's will in his life.

II. The Power of Divine Commission (vv. 7-13).

Just as unbelief hinders even the Son of God, so faith in God and obedience to His command makes of weak and poorly equipped men the mighty servants of God. In fact, their very dependence on Him for all things sets them free to devote themselves fully to the ministry of preaching and healing.

Note that they went "two by two." We have forgotten that divine plan, and often send men into remote and dangerous pioneer work—alone. Man needs fellowship; he needs counsel and control.

Consider also how they were to learn to trust God for their daily sustenance (vv. 8,9). They suffered no lack (see Luke 22:35). These rules for the life of religious workers were modified later (Luke 22:36), but the principle remains the same—the man or woman who is not ready to depend on God for everything had better not set out to follow Him. It is a blessed and delightful life!

The same is true of the power given the disciples. They ministered in the days of beginning of the Gospel and God gave them special powers which are not needed in our day. But it is still true that the power for service which we so much need today must come from God. All our labors are in vain without His blessing. "Except the Lord build the house they labor in vain that build it" (Ps. 127:1).

Mother's Work

"The future destiny of the child is always the work of the mother."
Napoleon

For Your Spring Wardrobe

DRESSES that not only satisfy your present craving for something new and spring-like, but also look ahead to a later season, too. Make them yourself at home, for very much less than you usually spend on clothes. You'll find it very easy to do, with the sew chart that accompanies each pattern.

Corselette Waistline.

If you have a slim figure, this is the afternoon dress for you! The fullness over the bust, the sleeves cut in one with the shoulders, and the lifted waistline, are just as flattering as they can be! It's the kind of dress you can wear to bridges, luncheons, meetings, and for every afternoon occasion, with the assurance that it is not only smart but becoming.

Slenderizing House Frock.

Especially designed for full figures, this house frock follows straight, tailored lines, and fits beautifully. You can get into it in nothing flat, and it doesn't take long to make either, thanks to the complete and detailed sew chart that comes with your pattern. Make it up in a pretty, small-figured printed percale, and trim it with rows of old-fashioned rick-rack.

A Frilly Home Cotton.

This is perfectly charming, made up in dotted Swiss, voile or dimity, in some flower-like color like delicate blue or pink or sunshiny, clear yellow, with sheer white collar and cuffs. It's ideal for slim figures. Nice to wear around the house now, and perfect to wear anywhere, later on, during summer afternoons.

The Patterns.

1442 is designed for sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20, 40 and 42. Size 14 requires 3¾ yards of 39-inch material.

1389 is designed for sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50 and 52. Size 38 requires 4⅜ yards of 35 or 39-inch material 3½ yards of braid.

1453 is designed for sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20. Size 14 requires 4 yards of 39-inch material, plus ⅝ yard contrasting, 2¾ yards edging.

Send your order to The Sewing Circle Pattern Dept., 247 W. Forty-Third Street, New York, N. Y. Price of patterns, 15 cents (in coins) each.

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JUST JESTS

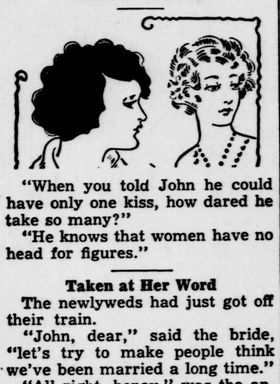
Nick Name

Guest—What a pretty name your maid has!

Hostess—Oh, that isn't her real name. We just call her "Dawn" because she's always breaking.

The man who cooks up excuses usually has to eat his words.

DON'T COUNT



"When you told John he could have only one kiss, how dared he take so many?"

"He knows that women have no head for figures."

Taken at Her Word

The newlyweds had just got off their train.

"John, dear," said the bride, "let's try to make people think we've been married a long time."

"All right, honey," was the answer, "you carry the suitcases."

Nowadays a girl has to work like a horse to get a groom.

Good Guess

"That new man Charlie we've got on the pumps is certainly a live wire," said the manager of the gasoline station.

"Really?"

"Yes, a motorist drove up just now and shouted, 'Dionne Quintuplets!' and Charlie gave him five gals."

Flood Stage

Bunchuck—What is the greatest water power known to man?

Dzudi—Woman's tears.

Favorite Recipe of the Week

PIMIENTO BISQUE

THE soup described below is delicious. It has a delectable flavor and the rich color of the pimientoes gives just the desired red touch to the finished product.

1 can cream of celery soup
1 cup milk
3 pimientoes
1 tsp. salt
2 slices of onion
⅛ tsp. paprika

If canned condensed soup is used, prepare according to directions on the label and then add 1 cup of milk. If canned ready-to-serve cream of celery soup is used, pour the contents into a pan and add the cup of milk. Rub the pimientoes through a sieve and add to the soup. Add salt, onion and paprika and heat until the soup is hot. Stir frequently. Remove the onion. Serves 6.

The food with red color in the main course might be a ring mold made with canned beets.

The red color for the dessert might be supplied by a raspberry gelatin made with a can of red raspberries.

MARJORIE H. BLACK.

Big Portion of World Sales

AMERICAN business spends more money for advertising than is spent for the same purpose in all the remainder of the world. The result is that, while American people represent only one-seventh of the world's population, their purchases represent forty-seven per cent of the world sales.

NERVOUS?

Do you feel so nervous you want to scream? Are you cross and irritable? Do you scold those dearest to you?

If your nerves are on edge, try LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND. It often helps Nature calm quivering nerves.

For three generations one woman has told another how to go "smiling through" with Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. It helps Nature tone up the system, thus lessening the discomforts from the functional disorders which women must endure.

Make a note NOW to get a bottle of world-famous Pinkham's Compound today WITHOUT FAIL from your druggist—more than a million women have written in letters reporting benefit.

Why not try LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND?

As You Can

Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, to all the people you can, as long as you can.—John Wesley.

ADVERTISING

is as essential to business as is rain to growing crops. It is the keystone in the arch of successful merchandising. Let us show you how to apply it to your business.