

# The Marriage Problem

By J. DASKAM BACON  
Author of "The Madness of Philip,"  
"The Inheritance," etc.

## Homemaking Must Be Raised to the Level of Other Professions

LONG before fifty years it will, I am sure, have dawned upon the average man that the chief source of difficulty in marriage as it works out today is not emotional, nor religious, nor hygienic—it is purely economic.

I say the "chief source" because no human relation is so simple as to admit of one difficulty or to require but one remedy. As the most intimate of voluntarily assumed relationships, marriage will always retain its fixed proportion of unavoidable risk, unavoidable complication, unavoidable error. Therefore, I feel that it is a waste of time to theorize over the emotional problems, which can never be settled sex by sex, so to speak, but must inevitably be adjusted couple by couple. Probably Adam and Eve confronted no more and no less of these than any pair of psychoanalysts today.

The hygienic problems, with the contingent issue of rational birth control, can be settled no more quickly than the steady growth of popular education permits, and will be solved precisely as soon as would be safe, in all probability, judging by the growing and intelligent interest in everything that pertains to health and sanitation, with special stress on vitality and longevity. I should say that this would take care of itself.

The religious problems, for the great mass of Anglo-Saxon civilization, no longer exist, in practical fact.

Feeling, as I do, that of these aspects of marriage the emotional can never be settled, the hygienic is on the way to being settled, and the religious has been settled, I now turn to the most important aspect of all for the woman of the Twentieth century—the economic.

This situation is not at all emotional and does not present the complications of individual vagaries. Though all the conditions are ripe for adjustment, and though everybody's mind should be by now prepared for it, and though we are being steadily pushed to it, the public mind is not engaged upon it as in the hygienic field. It has not been politely retained as a gesture and preserved for its traditional and sentimental uses; on the contrary, it is violently resented and increasingly questioned. I believe it to be the cause of more dissatisfaction among married women than any other one thing, and I believe that if it could be fairly settled it would result in more direct and immediate benefit and satisfaction to more women than the right of suffrage has ever directly effected.

And so it is clear that I believe that nothing about us will seem more absurd than the fact that while we babble continually about the inestimable value of a wife and homemaker, she was actually worth whatever her husband felt like giving her!

It will seem idiotic to her that a successful, independent wage-earner should suddenly turn into a sort of ward, dependent upon whatever her guardian felt he could spare her for pocket money.

No one has ever contended that the American husband is not generous; he is probably the most generous husband on earth, man for man. But each one of the steadily increasing number of wage-earning women (and today every girl feels herself a potential wage-earner) looks with a certain uneasy wonder at a future partnership when the conscience of the junior partner or vice president or managing director or executive secretary seems likely to prick her if she lays any definite claim to any personal income that goes much beyond board and clothes and legitimate expenses connected with entertaining.

The lucky wage-earner who can continue to pursue her career at home after marriage has long ago settled this question. Thoughtful women are even now considering very seriously whether some arrangement of part-time work, lightening of domestic responsibilities by various community activities, along the lines of day nurseries, food service, etc., cannot be made to give a little freedom to the wife who willingly relinquishes her old independence for family life, but who wonders if she must give up tenths of it. I think we shall see this problem solved in the fairly near future.

But it may take 50 years before the great mass of women who do nothing at all but the work that all men tell them is the greatest of all, can hope to receive, as automatically as the government receives the income tax, their obvious salary: a fixed proportion of their husband's income.

Obviously, before receiving it, they must qualify for it, and this may surprise and vex a great many of them. But if they were certain of the salary you be be sure they would take a course of household economics, budgeting and child care as readily as they study stenography today.

And if men want homes a hundred years from now they must raise homemaking to the level of the other professions open to women.

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OPTOMETRIST  
CHESTERTOWN, MD.  
In office at Chestertown every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. Office

# VISITORS TO AND FROM GALENA

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Hobbs and children, of Wilmington, Del., were Sunday guests of Mrs. Linda Walls.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Cochran spent several days last week in Alexandria, Va., with his mother, Mrs. Mry Cochran and while there attended the funeral of his aunt, Mrs. Julia McGrath.

Mr. Julian Woodall, of Wilmington, Del., spent last Monday with friends and relatives in town.

Mr. Fred Mench, of Cape May, New Jersey, spent the week end with his daughter and son in law, Mr. and Mrs. Harry W. Pinder, Jr., near town.

Miss Carrie Dempsey, of Murphy Home, Dover, Del., spent last Friday with her brother and sister in law, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dempsey.

Rev. and Mrs. W. G. Barlow, Mrs. Raymond Tapper and son, Bud, visited friends at Tighman's Island, Md.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Stevens, of Stanton, Del., were Sunday guests of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Pinder, near town.

Mr. and Mrs. John Martin, of Philadelphia, Pa., visited Mrs. Maggie Martin near town on Sunday.

Mrs. James Scotton and Miss Selma Scotton spent several days last week with the former's daughter, Mrs. Harry Smith in Salisbury, Md.

Mr. and Mrs. P. K. Horsey visited their daughter, Mrs. Bernice Horsey in Wilmington, Del., last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry L. Redding, Mrs. Maggie Martin, spent last Sunday with Mrs. Redding's cousin, Mrs. Lancaster, in New Castle, Del.

An election for Galena Town Commissioners' was held on Monday this following were elected. Amount of votes as follows: Mr. Wallace Duham-ll 31, Mr. Frank Johnson 28, Mr. James Mulford 29.

Miss Ethelie Pretzman, of Baltimore, Md., spent the past week end with her mother, Mrs. Ida Pretzman. We are glad to report that Miss Virginia Spry, Misses John and Bates

Walls, were in an auto accident last Tuesday evening. All received minor cuts and bruises.

Dr. and Mrs. G. W. Zeiders, of Baltimore, Md., spent the past week end with her parents, Dr. and Mrs. E. A. Scott.

Dr. and Mrs. J. Earl Giffilan entertained on Sunday, Rev. Franklin Ferguson, Rev. Blar, of Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, Miss Mildred Owens of Wilmington, Del., on Sunday.

Mrs. L. R. Vansant is visiting her daughter, Mrs. Terry Mitchell in Waynesboro, Pa.

Miss Kathryn Thornton left on Sunday to spend a week with her mother, Mrs. William Thornton near Wor-ton.

Dr. George R. Jones who has been quite sick is much improved after being confined to his home after several weeks illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Walsh, of Wilmington, Del., spent last Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Woodall, in Georgetown, Md.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Statts, of Wilmington, Del., visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bolton last Sunday.

Miss Katherine Haley and friend, of Wilmington, Del., spent the week end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Haley.

Mr. and Mrs. Clark Colgain and family, of Wilmington, Del., were week end guests of Mrs. Colgain's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Jones.

Mr. and Mrs. Price Roe and son, of Dover, Del., were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Starr.

The Ladies Aid of the M. E. Church meet at the Chapel last Tuesday evening.

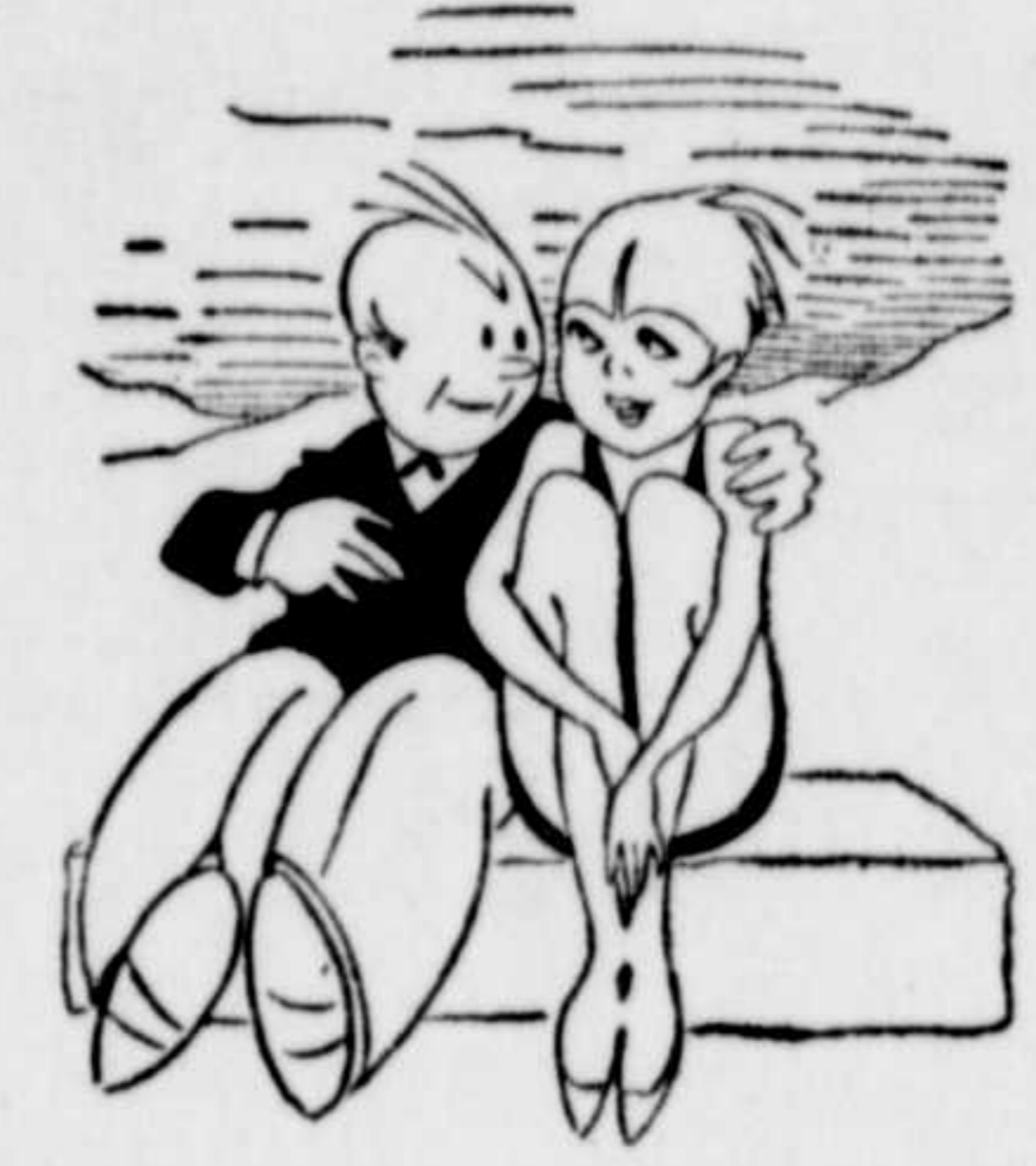
## HE COULD

Man: 'Say, Conductor, can't you run any faster than this?'  
Conductor: 'Yes, I can, but I have to stay in the car.'



She—Aren't you afraid to go in up to your neck?  
He—My no! I'm in debt up to my neck all the time.

## DOLLAR DAY, HUH?



He (rapturously)—You accept me. Then it's a bargain.  
She (calmly)—Certainly, I shouldn't consider it if it wasn't.

## LIKE THE WIND



"My wife is a woman who always speaks her mind."  
"Her conversation must be monotonous."  
"Not at all. She's continually changing her mind."



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# Jones & Satterfield

Chestertown Phone 51 Maryland



## "MICKY" AND HIS GANG

By Sam Iger



## SNOODLES

By Cy Hungerford



## "MICKY" AND HIS GANG

By Sam Iger



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