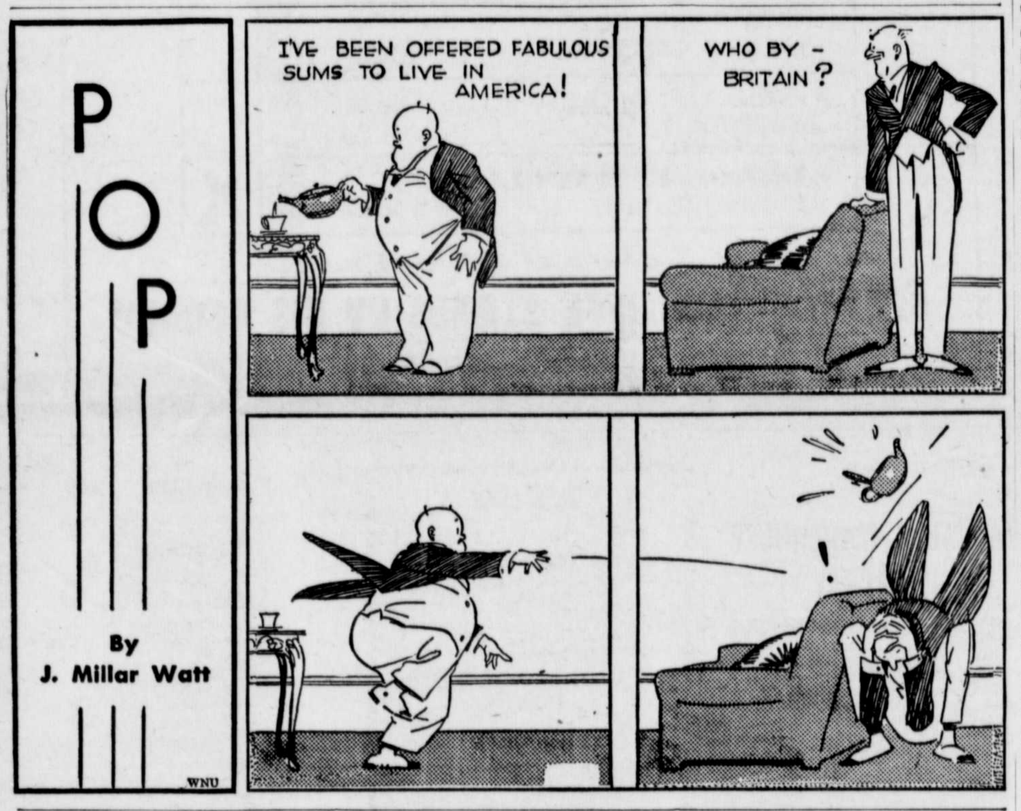
OUR COMIC SECTION

Events in the Lives of Little Men

(WNU Service)



QUALIFIED

Orrin—I think I'll run my wife for congresswoman.

Fred—Why?

Orrin—Because she's so good at introducing bills into the house.

Supply and Demand

A party of American tourists in a bus were being driven among the mountains of Switzerland.

"Say, where did those large rocks come from?" asked the man next to the driver.

The glaciers brought them down," replied the driver.

"But where are the glaciers?" was the next question.

"They've gone back to get more rocks," was the weary reply.

NECESSITY

Mrs. Gabber—Baby will be walking soon.

Mr. Gabber—I'm afraid so. The finance company is threatening to repossess our car.

Kathleen Norris Says:

When Wife Is Man of the Family . . .

(Bell Syndicate—WNU Service.)

I get out to the farm Saturday at noon, to receive a warmly affectionate welcome, but no comprehension on the part of Rex and the children of the burden I carry.

By KATHLEEN NORRIS

THE situation in the Brown family is one that could not have existed a hundred years ago. It is a problem born of our modern civilization, and one that many a wife and husband will have to solve if social and marital adjustments are to be made successfully, and unnecessary divorces avoided.

Ann Brown is 36, tall, energetic, radiating health and high spirits, and equal to every demand life has made upon her. Her husband, Rex, is a milder type, and has never been particularly fond of business of any sort, or capable of holding anything but a routine office job.

Life Moves East.

For four years before she married, Ann taught in an aristocratic private school. Then, before marriage, she entered a woman's college as a junior, and graduated with honors in eighteen months. In the three years after her marriage she had a son and twin daughters and managed them magnificently. Upon Rex's small salary Ann purchased a large country house with seven acres of orchard and garden, and had paid for the place when Rex lost his job seven years ago. She immediately opened a girls' concentration school, taking four boarders and enrolling a class of eleven. This paid well, for many of the pupils were difficult or arrested cases, and Ann's teaching experience had been largely with children of this type.

Three years ago she was offered a position in state work at $300 a month. Her children were safe in the hands of their father and a fine old colored servant, and Ann was free to go to the capital and embark upon work that fascinated her. A radio contract now pays her an extra $50 a week. Here is a part of her letter explaining the problem she has to meet in making a sound adjustment for herself and her family.

Rex's Life Happy.

"Rex lives happily upon our little farm," writes Ann. "He adores the children, and he and Lenny, the housekeeper, and certain friendly neighbors live a community life that more than satisfies him. I send him $200 a month, and he saves on it, raising garden vegetables on the farm and selling apple and walnut crops. We have two cows, but Rex doesn't get up to milk them; he trades milk for a farmer's services. Rex sleeps, and eats, and laughs, and loafs about, and says he is the happiest man in the world.

"Meanwhile I keep office hours, interview scores of persons every day, carry a heavy responsibility in the decisions I have to make and the treatment I have to recommend, hold innumerable distressing meetings with parents, prepare my 15-minute radio address every week, handle hundreds of letters, and live alone in a small apartment. I get out to the farm Saturday at noon, to receive a warmly affectionate welcome, but no more comprehension, on the part of Rex or the children, of the burden that I carry than if they were so many birds.

Offer Rejected.

"Some months ago Rex had a really good offer to go into the real-estate business with a man who would put up all the capital, and expect Rex to contribute only his personality, which is very pleasing. My husband declined the offer, explaining to me that he was too happy as things are. His salary, if he succeeded at all, would have made it possible to save for the children's schooling; I would like to put all three into fine boarding schools some day.

"I ask you if you consider this a fair adjustment of a family's financial problem. Is it fair to have one partner working hard all day long, occasionally skipping even the week-end holidays, and to have the other living on the fat of the land, enjoying his children's companionship and entirely free from care? And if you agree with me that it is not fair, then what do you suggest as an argument or change that will bring matters back to normal?"

The Answer to Ann.

Well, to begin with, Ann, you describe here exactly the normal married life, were the position of the sexes reversed. Thousands—millions of women, for hundreds of years, have had the home, the housekeeper, the fruit and flowers, the children's companionship, the regular income, the freedom for neighborly intercourse that Rex is so much enjoying. Were you the one at home and he the one at work, nobody could find anything to criticize in the situation.

If that were the case you might very naturally find yourself complaining that while you were relegated to dull household and farm duties, the company of children and an old colored woman, Rex was living an exciting and important life among the lights and gaieties of the big city.

You are, obviously, the business member of the family. Everything you touch succeeds, and your income already is one that many a man would be proud to earn. You've followed your bent, taking a few years out for wifehood and motherhood, it is true, but immediately returning to the wider field, to the great service that you are privileged to give to the unfortunate and defective children of the world that you meet in the course of duty in the position of trust that you evidently hold.

Consider Rex.

Why grudge Rex his content? So few men are content! If he likes to putter about with apples and walnuts, to take the muddy old car and go bring the children home from school, to hang on a fence gossiping with a neighbor or to go off for a few days' fishing, why shouldn't he? If those quiet domestic occupations had satisfied you, he would have been perfectly willing to have you enjoy them, and would have plodded away patiently at the office work he hates, to support you in them.

It is a poor nature that, taking what it wants itself, yet looks aside jealously at the simpler pleasures of other folk and resents them. Wives who fret because their husbands enjoy downtown lunches, occasional bridge games at the club on the way home, lodge meetings, golf, hunting, are pretty narrow wives. To make someone else unhappy never contributes to your own happiness.

Should Rejoice.

Rejoice, rather, that matters have fallen out so fortunately. The children have their father, and a comfortable country home. Rex is useful and needed, for you could hardly turn the responsibility of the farm over to Lenny. He decides about crops and pruning, about the care of the cows, the car, the roof shingles, the children's colds and scratches and homework; on bitter nights, on burning noondays you know he is there to keep an eye on the household. Somebody has to do it.

Meanwhile you pursue the profession that is not only so valuable to humanity, but that must be peculiarly gratifying to you. You have your office, your assistants; your opinions are respected. The radio work alone sets you apart as a conspicuously successful woman, and there are other doors ahead of you—other triumphs and achievements which you must aim to achieve.

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HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONS

The cookie cutter will not stick and gum up if dipped in flour before cutting the dough.

* * *

To keep mashed potatoes hot, place them in a tightly covered kettle set in a pan of hot water over a low heat.

* * *

Chopped cooked prunes mixed with peanut butter or cottage cheese makes a good sandwich spread.

* * *

Old-fashioned iron beds can easily be camouflaged by putting attractive slipcovers over the ends.

* * *

Grease spilled on a hardwood kitchen floor may be quickly removed by pouring kerosene over the spot. When the kerosene evaporates, the grease will have disappeared.

* * *

Wipe off parchment lamp shades with a cloth dampened with olive oil. It will remove all soil and will restore the former freshness.

* * *

The sun should not be allowed to shine directly on begonias or plants that have large, rather soft leaves when leaves are wet. If water is left on leaves, they are likely to burn.

* * *

Washing machine hints: Always turn off the machine if you are suddenly called away. The average tubful of clothing requires six minutes for ordinary washing—and 10 minutes for badly soiled articles, such as overalls. Change the water twice in laundering soiled articles such as rugs and play suits. Never overcrowd the washing machine, since the garments in it may be torn.

INDIGESTION

may affect the Heart

Gas trapped in the stomach or gullet may act like a hair-trigger on the heart. At the first sign of distress smart men and women depend on Bell-ans Tablets to set gas free. No laxative but made of the fastest-acting medicines known for acid indigestion. If the FIRST DOSE doesn't prove Bell-ans better return bottle to us and receive DOUBLE Money Back. 25c.

Daily Growth

I don't think much of a man who is not wiser today than he was yesterday.—Lincoln.

WOMEN IN YOUR "40s"

Read This Important Message!

Do you dread those "trying years" (38 to 52)? Are you getting moody, cranky and NERVOUS? Do you fear hot flashes, weakening dizzy spells? Are you jealous of attentions other women get? THEN LISTEN—

These symptoms often result from female functional disorders. So start *today* and take famous Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. For over 60 years Pinkham's Compound has helped hundreds of thousands of grateful women to go "smiling thru" difficult days. Pinkham's has helped calm unstrung nerves and lessen annoying female functional "irregularities." One of the *most effective* "woman's" tonics. *Try it!*

One as All

Love one human being purely and warmly, and you will love all.—Richter.

Isn't This Why You Are Constipated?

What do you eat for breakfast? Coffee, toast, maybe some eggs? What do you eat for lunch and dinner? White bread, meat, potatoes? *It's little wonder you're constipated. You probably don't eat enough "bulk."* And *"bulk"* doesn't mean the *amount* you eat. It's a *kind* of food that forms a soft "bulky" mass in the intestines and helps a movement. If this is your trouble, may we suggest a crunchy toasted cereal—*Kellogg's All-Bran*—for breakfast. All-Bran is a natural food, not a medicine—but it's particularly rich in "bulk." Being so, it can help you not only to *get* regular but to *keep* regular. Eat All-Bran *regularly*, and drink plenty of water. Made by Kellogg's in Battle Creek. If your condition is chronic, it is wise to consult a physician.

BARGAINS

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