

Kathleen Norris Says: Wife May Be Cause of Tightwad Husband

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My husband grudges me spending money, criticizes my buying of clothes, and makes terrible scenes at the first of every month when the bills come in.

By KATHLEEN NORRIS

KATHRYN says she has a tightwad husband. She sends me seven scribbled pages on heavily monogrammed paper, to explain to me exactly how penurious Geoff is. She says he has Scotch ancestry and she thinks that explains a good deal.

"When we were married I did my best on practically no money at all," writes Kathryn, "and Geoff often says that those were among the happiest days of his life. He then gave me \$10 a week for table expenses and my own pocket money, and though I had not had much experience in keeping house I got on very well. By the time our daughter, Patricia, now 11 years old, was born, things were easier, and for the last five or six years we have had a nice home, two good servants, and my household expenses must run sometimes between one hundred and fifty dollars a month; I have a fine maid, and as much extra assistance as I like; in short, we are a typical American small-town prosperous family. I belong to the Woman's Club and the Music Society, and we are both active in Country Club amusements. Also, may I say, Geoff is in contributory defense work and I am vice president of the Red Cross."

"But my husband grudges me spending money, criticizes my buying of clothes, and makes terrible scenes at the first of every month when the bills come in. Pat is naturally at an expensive age, when schooling, gym, dentist all cost money; there is scarcely a week when a child that age does not need some new garment, or else it is a tennis racket, ski shoes, skates."

Rages Over Bills.
"Geoff this morning raged about the telephone bill, which was large last month because my mother is sick in a hospital in a town 400 miles away and I have frequently called her, feeling that this is cheaper by far than going to see her. He also raved over the florist's bill, my shoe bill, and the grocer's bill. These last items were large because in both cases I had attended sales, feeling that we may be glad someday to have a good deal of canned stuff in the house and I will now not need shoes for at least two years."

"What especially angers me is that I have discovered through a friend, whose husband told her, that Geoff is making extra money these days, money of which he has said nothing to me. When we were married we talked things over honestly, and promised always to be frank with each other, and in those days we would pool our money together, and make plans. Now he gives me \$25 a month pocket money, and by the last week of the month I can assure you that I am often embarrassed before my friends for taxifares, lunch money, tips, telegrams, the purchase of bridge prizes or the thousand other trifles that women need. Some years ago, and again last year, he threatened to stop my credit at the shops if I did not buy less, and rather than risk that I don't know what I wouldn't do!"

"After this, you will perhaps be surprised that I don't leave him, and think of us as a quarrelsome and unhappy couple. But such is not the case. I am proud of Geoff, I never think of any life away from him, Pat is devoted to her father,

COST OF LIVING
The cost of living isn't going down, you know, and it may go up and up if you don't think twice before you spend your money. The money you spent today for that extra pair of shoes ("just in case," you told yourself) may make the difference between a balanced budget and one of those fearful scenes in which you protest that you didn't buy a single thing you could have gotten along without. Are you sure? You may have needed everything you bought, but that doesn't mean that you had to buy it. And if you do keep within your budget, why not put the extra money into something really worth while? Buy war bonds and stamps!

and more than that, I have no money, and Geoff and my brother support my mother and have for years. Ours is a very happy and harmonious household, except for this one subject, which unfortunately comes up about the first of every month. Can you advise me as to some way of persuading him that a woman of 35 does not like to be treated like an irresponsible child?"

Irresponsible in Money Matters.
It all depends, my dear Kathryn, upon the question as to whether the woman of 35 really is or is not an irresponsible child. Most husbands in these days are proud to trust their wives with their financial responsibilities, and proud to boast of their wives' thriftiness, and good wives rejoice in their ability to keep well within the household budget and still take good care of the family.

Kathryn is evidently entirely unacquainted with the budget. My advice to her is to meet it. Let her take a pencil and paper this very night and write down, with Geoff's help, exactly what her expenditures every month OUGHT to be. Rent on an income of \$5,000 a year ought to be well under a hundred; food, including milk and ice, another hundred, and so on. These figures could be cut in half without leaving the Browns homeless and starving.

Then let Geoff add his inescapable expenses; taxes, insurance, valet service, transportation, car maintenance, lunches, club dues. These with telephone, light, gas, cooking and furnace fuel, outdoor man once a week and Annie's wages will come to a sum that will amaze Kathryn. She will say in consternation, "but then the doctor and the dentist and flowers and symphony seats and church and what you send Mother all have to come out of less than a hundred!"

Patriotic to Cut Down Expenses.
Poor, on five thousand a year! But Kathryn still has a lot to learn. Personally, I can't blame a husband who refuses to trust a woman who isn't sure within \$50 what her grocery bill is, and who buys everything she needs or fancies, just when she sees it, with no reference at all to the state of the family bank account.

It is a very serious patriotic duty for every wife now to keep her man and herself from worrying, by cutting down expenses, by living in cheaper quarters, dispensing with kitchen help, impressing her friends rather with the money she doesn't spend than the money she does. Make that first-of-the-month-bill crisis a time of pleasant surprises rather than angry consternation.

Santa's Pack to Weigh Less But Toys Will Be as Numerous

News from "somewhere at the North Pole": Santa Claus' load will be definitely lighter this Christmas—but that won't mean that his pack won't be as chuck-full of toys as ever.

It's because the cars, trains, ships and other such items usually made of metal are being replaced by wood this year. With metals on priorities list, American manufacturers have displayed their ingenuity in designing new toys to replace the old, resulting in toys aplenty for all of Young America.

Already, in the toys being received for the holiday season by the toy department of one of the country's largest stores on Chicago's State street, pulse-center of the Midwest's retail trade, wooden toys to replace

those made of metal now essential in other fields predominate. Instead of the fire-engines and automobiles for runabout sports for the nation's young men, miniature M-3s and PT-4s—made entirely of wood—are being suggested for gift-seeking parents.

Every conceivable mobile unit of Uncle Sam's armed forces is being duplicated in the offerings found among the thousands of toys in this department. Junior will even be able to tour his neighborhood in a carriage mounting an anti-aircraft gun.

Typical of American ingenuity at work to find substitutes for metal parts in toys, is the wooden handle and springs which replace metal parts for little sister's doll carriage.

That America is capable of producing its own products—even to fine

bisque dolls once made only abroad—is indicated in the tea sets, duplicates of adult-sized sets, being made in this country by well-known china firms.

Large-sized dolls, not held in favor for the young for the past several years, once more dot the doll collections for Christmas, with a 27-inch doll one of the prizes in the group. A trousseau for the doll, complete to tiny knitted mittens, can be assembled for sister's little chum. Doll furniture shows the influence of better styling being stressed in homes today. Furniture for the little ones is exact duplicates of the 18th century English pieces, and includes breakfasts, divans, commodes, and even chaise longues.

With an eye toward recurring blackout tests, one manufacturer has produced a blackout kit, with games to be played during such times. One item of the kit is a badge which glows in the dark, suggested for use while walking the family dog.

Very little men and women will play with toys that are assembled from carts attached to miniature army lorries and ambulances, while such items as "flag sticks," colored bits of wood from which flags can be assembled, teach the young to recognize their own and other countries' flags.

Likewise bowing to present conditions, the manufacturers of toys and airplanes have introduced new models in Messerschmitts, Flying Tigers and Kittyhawks, either ready-made, or ready to be assembled, and in submarines, airplane carriers and destroyers.

Floor-Length Dinner Gown Is Still Chosen for Formal Wear

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



THOSE adorable little street length frocks which have captured the fancy of all with their fascinating low-cut necklines and their pretty furbelows rank high in favor, the more so now that "furlough" dates have come into our lives. However when it comes to more formal occasions, women are voicing their preference in no uncertain terms for long, sleek and sophisticated gowns that lend dignity to the occasion.

Because the L-85 styles are limited as to yardage, fabrics for the present season are being chosen on a basis of quality rather than quantity. The trend is toward luxurious fabrics in gala gowns styled with that exquisite simplicity which declares perfection in line and contour. In this category regal rayon velvets share honors with supple, interestingly textured crepes, and jersey ranks high on the list. The finer rayon constructions, including satins, tafetas, crepes, velvets, moires, nets and laces, impart glamour-plus to formal modes.

Deep toned rayon crepes and sheers are beautifully adapted to the molded lines of the new streamlined dinner gowns, as also are dull-finished crush-resistant velvets. You'll find that both crepe and velvet versions abound in close draped effects sometimes siren-like in their sleek lines, or statuesque in a classic way, or having that distinguished "covered up" look that fitted wrist-length sleeves give. Often the sleeves are very, very long and the neckline very, very low. Skirts are slit, or perhaps harem draped. Most often the new after-dark gowns flash with metallic or other brilliant touches that are either discreetly done or applied with a prodigious hand. An arresting new fashion is that of trimming with fur

bandings. An endless amount of jet is also seen, likewise glistening, colorful sequins. Much exquisite beadwork is being done in delicate pastels.

The charm and dignity you will want for that very special event is reflected in the stately gown centered in the above picture. Here you see a most pleasing fabric-savvy silhouette interpreted with fine black crush-resistant velvet. Be assured that a correctly fitted foundation garment is giving the proper basis for these suave lines. The highlight in this elegant evening gown is the unique flower pockets, each formed of a huge, luscious, many-petaled velvet poppy in blended shades of rose, orchid and blue.

Fine rayon crepe in the now-fashionable purple makes the deftly styled dress to the left in the group illustrated above. Magenta-tinted pleated ruffles placed at the hips accent the suave fit of the long-torsoed bodice and the pencil-slim lines of the skirt. The color tones so adroitly combined suggest the rich fuchsia tones which are creating a sensation this season in their superb beauty. Needless to say, the staturesque lines, such as this gown delineates, demand an expertly corseted figure.

Soft-textured black rayon crepe achieves a perfect silhouette for the glamorous gown pictured to the right in the above illustration. The decorative, glistening bead embroidery at the front of the slender skirt is repeated at the base of the flattering sweetheart neck. The color scheme of this delicate embroidery in soft pastel is enchanting.

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FIRST-AID to the AILING HOUSE

by Roger B. Whitman
Roger B. Whitman—WNU Features.

LATH MARKS ON PLASTER DUE TO CONDENSATION

IT IS quite usual for upstairs ceilings to show parallel marks corresponding to the lath that supports the plaster. The cause of this marking is not always understood. Actually, it is one of the effects of condensation. When markings occur, it is usually under an unheated attic. The low temperature in the attic cools the ceiling plaster beneath, and condensation occurs with the chilling of warm and damp house air by contact with it. The plaster becomes slightly dampened, especially in the spaces between the laths; not enough to be noticed, but quite enough to pick up dust from the air. It is the gradual accumulation of dust that makes the dark streaks, the streaks actually being in the spaces between the lath, rather than on the lath itself. One remedy for this is insulation in the attic floor between the floor beams. The effect of this is to keep the plaster from being chilled and thus prevent condensation. The appearance of lath marks on a side wall is due to the chilling of the air in the wall spaces. Methods by which this can be stopped depend on the construction of the house. It goes without saying that the appearance of lath marks on ceilings or walls indicates loss of heat, and consequent waste of fuel.

Sooty Chimney
Question: How can I avoid having large amounts of soot blown into a room from a fireplace on windy days? Is there any way to clean the vent and chimney?

Answer: The back drafts in your chimney may be because the chimney is too low; its top should be at least two feet above the highest point of the roof, and higher still if there are tall trees or buildings nearby. Another reason might be the improper design of the fireplace and the omission of a wind-shield behind the throat. Also, the fireplace opening may be too high for its width. If it is not several inches lower than its width, raise the fireplace floor by putting down one or two layers of firebrick. A chimney can be cleaned by lowering a tire chain on a rope from the top, swinging it from side to side as it descends. Before doing this, the fireplace opening should be closed with a heavy piece of canvas or otherwise.

Coal Gas Odors
Question: What causes a coal gas odor in an apartment house? What can be done to keep it out of my apartment? I have a five-room suite on the first floor. We get the smell several times a day.

Answer: If the doors on the boiler do not fit well, coal gas will leak out. A defect in the smokepipe, also improper handling of the drafts on the boiler when fresh coal has been put on the fire are possible causes. All these possibilities should be checked, and if present, corrected. A booklet on running a coal fire can be obtained from the Anthracite Institute, 19 Rector street, New York city.

Damp Basement
Question: In a building that I have just bought, the front room in the basement was evidently intended for a playroom. There is a musty or moldy odor in it that I would like to eliminate. Both my wife and child are sensitive to the odor. How can I get rid of it?

Answer: The odor is from rotting wood. Somewhere in the structure you will find wood that is damp from continual contact with the earth. Very possibly it is from a wood floor that has not been waterproofed. This rotting wood should be replaced by something more permanent or should be made waterproof. Consult a building contractor.

Removing Veneer
Question: How can veneer be removed from an oak desk? This has chipped, but in most places sticks terribly tight.

Answer: Scrape off the finish to the bare wood, or use a varnish remover, so that moisture can penetrate, and lay cloths damp with water over the veneer that you want to take off. For quicker action, press the damp cloth with a hot iron; steam that forms will soften the glue rapidly.

Painting Chimney
Question: How can paint be removed from the outside of a brick chimney?

Answer: That depends on the kind of paint that was used. If it was oil paint, it can be burned off with a blowtorch, using every care to protect nearby woodwork from fire. If it is a water paint, soak it with water and use a wire brush.

Things to do



AMERICA—Land of the Free!
That's what the American eagle stands for, and here he is in a striking file design. Be first to crochet this new patriotic chair set. It's lovely in fine cotton.

Pattern 7258 contains charts and directions for set; illustrations of it and stitches; materials needed. Send your order to:

Sewing Circle Needlecraft Dept., 117 Minna St., San Francisco, Calif. Enclose 15 cents (plus one cent to cover cost of mailing) for Pattern No. Name Address

St. Joseph
ASPIRIN
WORLD'S LARGEST SELLER AT 10¢

Buried Assets
The man who has nothing to boast of but his illustrious ancestry is like a potato—the only good belonging to him is underground.—Sir Thomas Overbury.

Beware Coughs from common colds That Hang On

Cremulson relieves promptly because it goes right to the seat of the trouble to help loosen and expel germ laden phlegm, and aid nature to soothe and heal raw, tender, inflamed bronchial mucous membranes. Tell your druggist to sell you a bottle of Cremulson with the understanding you must like the way it quickly always the cough or you are to have your money back.

CREMULSON
for Coughs, Chest Colds, Bronchitis

Way of Idleness
If you are idle you are on the way to ruin, and there are few stopping places upon it.—It is rather a precipice than a road.—H. W. Beecher.

MINOR BURNS
Quick application of comforting Resinol gives prompt relief from fiery throbbing. Its oily base soothes parched skin.

RESINOL

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Fool or Wise
There is no greater fool than the man who thinks himself wise; no one is wiser than he who suspects he is a fool.—Marguerite de Valois.

Sentinels of Health

Don't Neglect Them!
Nature designed the kidneys to do a marvelous job. Their task is to keep the flowing blood stream free of an excess of toxic impurities. The act of living—life itself—is constantly producing waste matter the kidneys must remove from the blood if good health is to endure.

When the kidneys fail to function as Nature intended, there is retention of waste that may cause body-wide distress. One may suffer nagging backache, persistent headaches, attacks of dizziness, peeing up nights, swelling, puffiness under the eyes—red tired, nervous, all signs out.

Frequent, scanty or burning passages are sometimes further evidence of kidney or bladder disturbance.

The recognized and proper treatment is a diuretic medicine to help the kidneys get rid of excess poisonous body waste. Doan's Pills. They have had more than forty years of public approval. Are made in the United States. Insure your health with Doan's Pills at all drug stores.

DOAN'S PILLS

Proper Care of Greenery Today Insures Future Yule Decorations

Many homes throughout the nation keep their Christmas greens until 12th Night, January the sixth. But most people take out the green, including the Christmas decoration, the day after New Year's day.

It has been asked by some, though, that why is it such beautiful decorations of green should be thrown out when they are suitable for the whole month of January. For instance, the bittersweet—bare branches terminating with terminal points of bright

orange-reddish hued semi-opened buds—are pretty, and attractive enough to keep for a month or two before a window. Their picturesque outline is seen against the light.

There is the Douglas fir, with its cones hanging from the evergreen tips, and which is always an indoor winter decoration. Likewise, ivy, so common we think little of it, has an unsurpassable decorative effect.

Another suggestion for wintertime indoor decoration with green is to use a silver or pewter bowl in which to arrange holly berry clusters that have been shorn of their leaves.

With a little ingenuity, homes in the wintertime, when there is a scarcity of greens for decoration, can be given a happy touch of color throughout the year. Especially in the early months of the year when the color of Christmas has gone, and the delicate touch of nature in spring has not yet arrived.

Search for Star
Last Christmas eve, as shepherds did nearly 2,000 years ago, wise men, schooled in augury, searched the skies for a sign. But the modern magi searched not for the bright star that heralded peace on earth, good will to men. They not only looked but listened, with ears alertly tuned. For a gleam against the zenith and the zoom of distant motors might herald the vanguard of winged hordes of death.

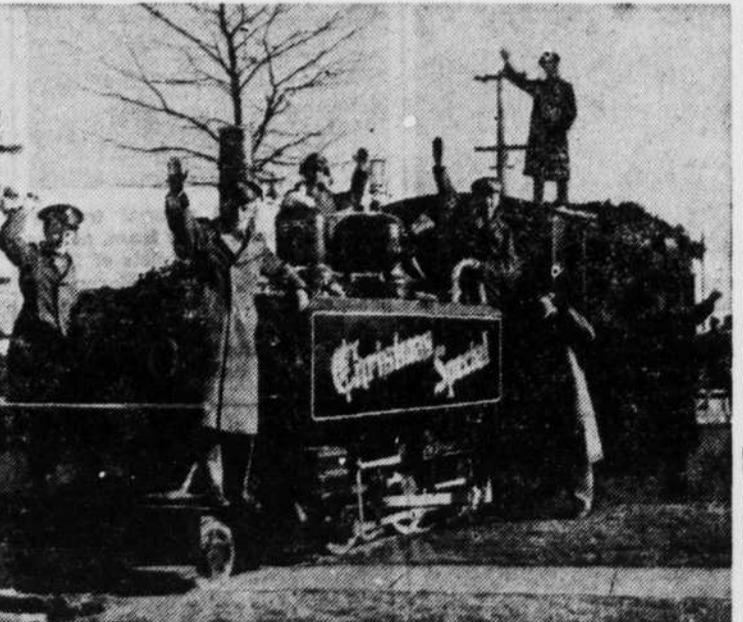
Pre-Communist Russia Visited on Christmas By Evil Old Woman

An evil but penitent old woman brought Christmas presents to children in pre-Communist Russia. According to an old Russian legend, Baboushka misdirected the Wise Men when they asked her the way to Bethlehem. She even refused to shelter the Holy Family on its flight into Egypt.

Baboushka later realized that she had done wrong, and left her home to find the Babe of Bethlehem. Ever since that day, she journeys throughout Russia, every Christmas, searching for the infant Jesus.

At every house she knocks with her staff, then enters to study the face of each child as it lies sleeping peacefully. Disappointed, Baboushka slips a toy under the pillow, then hastens away.

Christmas Special—On Time



This Christmas Special is "Luella," an old World War I donkey engine and caboose used as a shuttle for men and munitions between camp and the firing ranges at Fort Dix. N. J. Luella, like the Old Gray Mare, ain't what she used to be, but she has more than her share of memories.

Indians Brewed Drink From Southern Holly

Making Christmas decorations is only one of several roles played by the familiar southern holly.

Long before the plant was used by white settlers, Indians of North Carolina stewed the "yaupon" as it was called, to make a drink. They drank this before going into battle and also at some tribal feasts. It was also taken for certain physical ailments.

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| Watch Night Supper Menu | |
| Ham and Veal Pie | |
| Toasted Green Salad | |
| Spiced Peaches Celery | Olives |
| Hot Rolls | Butter |
| Brazil Nut Cake | Coffee |
| * * * | |
| Breakfast at Dawn | |
| Broiled Grapefruit | |
| Grilled Kidney, Bacon and | |
| Lamb Chops | |
| Spiced Prunes | |
| Toast | Bran Muffins |
| Orange Marmalade | Coffee |