WILD LIFE OF KENTUCKY

by Roger Barbour

MOREHEAD STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

GAME FISHES

The question, "What is a game fish?" is perhaps unanswerable. A simple answer is that fish which can be caught on artificial bait are classed as game fish. However, drum fish, chubs, and channel catfish are sometimes caught on plugs, but still could scarcely be classed as game fish. Fly fishermen hesitate to accept the above definition, for many species of non-edible fish are taken on flies. The writer has taken several species of minnows and darters on flies, and on one occasion hooked a lowly kip jack. I would certainly be extremely reluctant to call such fishes "game." Nevertheless, the above definition is suitable for the purposes of this article.

The gameness of a fish does not affect its edibility, a many non-game fish are delicious. By our definition, catfish are not game fish, yet they are of excellent quality for the table. Numerous other fishes fall in the same category.

Bait casters in Kentucky are perhaps most interested in the Small-mouth Bass, the Large-mouth Bass, and the Ohio Muskellunge as game fishes. On the other hand, fly fishermen are interested in these three, and in numerous other fishes, such as the Rock Bass, the Crappie, and other sunfishes.

Kentucky streams were once teeming with fish, but today, as any fisherman will tell you, that supply is sadly depleted. Many factors are responsible for this decrease in the numbers of our game fish, but perhaps the two most important are stream pollution and the illegal taking of fish.

The situation in regard to the illegal taking of fish is not as serious as it was a few years ago, but it is still pretty bad. Closer supervision of the streams, especially in spawning season, is sorely needed.

As regards stream pollution, fortunately, there is less of it than formerly. Sewage systems have been opened indiscriminately into streams with no regard for the fishes. In one particular spot, I have counted dozens of dead bass and sunfish, killed undoubtedly by a sewer that opened into the stream. That particular situation has now been remedied, however.

With a sane restocking policy, based on scientific research, and the application of a certain amount of common sense by Kentuckians in general, there should be nothing to prevent our streams from again supporting a great number of game fish.

Girls Will Wear Cotton Stockings In U. K. Test

The Southern cotton raiser will receive a little expert aid during the next few months from attractive young co-eds in the University of Kentucky home economics department. To encourage the wearing of cotton stockings, members of Phi Upsilon Omicron, national professional home economics fraternity, have agreed to wear them over a trial period of six weeks to three months.

The cotton stocking of 1940 is a fashionable accessory, says Miss Louise McGoldrick, president of the home economics society. It is full-fashioned, woven if desired, and of soft, pleasing colors. Far from being martyrs to a cause, these young women will save money and still look well-dressed, she emphasized.

The Kentucky department is cooperating with the Bureau of Home Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture in a series of practical tests to determine the wearability of cotton hosiery. Girls taking part will keep tab on how long the stockings wear, the cost, where they break first, how long they look well, and other factors.

It is the custom of Phi Upsilon Omicron members to assist every year in practical home economics projects of professional interest. This year they also are studying food costs, surveying vocational opportunities and trends, and taking part in the national organization's special consumer research.

To prevent a coating from forming over the top of boiled custard after it has been poured into a dish, cover it as soon as it is cool with a lid or waxed paper and store it in the refrigerator.

Honor Students Recognized At Agriculture Dinner

Honor students in home economics and agriculture were recognized recently at the annual dinner of students ad faculty members of the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture. The dinner attracted approximately 500 persons. Franklin Frazier of Upper Tygert, president of Block and Bridle club, presided.

Winners of the Jonas Weil Memorial scholarships were Benjamin Butler, Milton, and Terrell Noffsinger, Greenville. The scholarships were awarded by Herschel Weil, Fayette county farmer and stockman, in memory of his father, the late Jones Weil.

Miss Jane Farmer of Lexington received the award by Phi Upsilon Omicron, national professional home economics fraternity, as the sophomore who during her freshman year attained the highest scholastic standing. Winners in livestock judging who received Block and Bridle awards were Henry Caswell of Carlisle, Robert Davis of Paris and S. J. Stokes of Lexington.

New members of Phi Upsilon Omicron were recognized by Miss Louise McGoldrick, of Versailles, president. Alfred J. Strauss, Jr., Louisville, president of Alpha Zeta, men's honorary organization, pledged new members to the group. Dean Thomas P. Cooper presented outstanding College of Agriculture students, selected on the basis of scholarship.

Principal speakers were Miss Louise Scott, home demonstration agent in Breathitt county, and Curtis Park, county farm agent of Mercer county. Also on the program was Miss Jean Elliott, of Fayette county, a home economics student who recently was named the univerity's 1940 "Junior Prom Queen."

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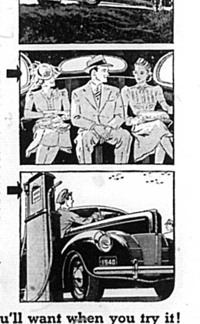

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IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL Lesson

By HAROLD L. LUNDQUIST, D. D.
Dean of The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.
(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

Lesson for April 21

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MICAH'S VISION OF PEACE

LESSON TEXT—Micah 4:1-5; 5:2-5a.

GOLDEN TEXT—And they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.—Micah 4:3.

Peace on earth! Why, that is hardly more than a phrase which we recall at Christmastime as we think of the song of the angels. Yet now is the time to assure people that there will be peace on earth. Peacemakers who are now silent were striving to bring in a man-made peace, following a will-o'-the-wisp. Let us tell men about the real peace which will come when the Prince of Peace sets up His kingdom. Let us urge upon them the glad acceptance of His personal kingship in their hearts that they may even now know peace within.

Micah warned Judah that their rejection of God and His love would bring them sorrow and judgment. In the midst of his message, however, he breaks forth into a glowing prophecy of the glory that is to come during the reign of the Messiah, the Prince of Peace.

I. The Foundation of Peace—God's Word (4:1, 2).

Vainly do men labor to bring about a lasting peace built upon the words of men, for the moment there seems to be gain in repudiating promises given in the greatest of solemnity, they become mere scraps of paper. There is no security in such words, nor in the guns and battleships used to support or to break them.

God's Word, the teaching of His law, walking in His paths—here is the foundation for real peace. Micah speaks of the time "in the last days" when the people of the earth shall go up to God's house to hear His Word and to learn to walk in His ways. To that blessed and holy day we look forward with anticipation and joy even as we now bring men the message of Christ's redemption and His peace.

II. The Prince of Peace—Jesus Christ (4:3-5).

This beautiful portion of God's Word (and such parallel passages as Isa. 2:1-5; 11:1-12) gathers together the longing and hopes of peace-loving men of every age. Perfect justice, the end of all wars, prosperity for peaceful pursuits, boys no longer learning warfare, complete social security, universal worship of God—what a thrilling promise!

Will it ever come true? Yes. When? In the "latter days" (v. 1, R. V.). Who has made such a promise? God Himself. Who will bring it about? God's Son, the Prince of Peace, who will come to "judge between many people."

Why will men be so blind to the "sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place" (II Pet. 1:19)? Why will we reject Him who is "the day star" (II Pet. 1:19; Rev. 22:16) and who is even now ready to "arise in your hearts"?

III. His Coming—As Saviour (5:2, 3).

This remarkable Messianic prophecy gave more than 700 years before the birth of Christ the exact place of His birth, so closely identified as to make both the prophecy and its fulfillment a testimony to the inspiration of the Bible. Note that this was the passage with which the priests and scribes answered the question of Herod (Matt. 2:1, 4-6) regarding the place where the Messiah was to be born.

Thus the coming ruler of Israel, the Judge of all peoples, the Prince of Peace, is none other than the Lord Jesus who was born into this world as the Babe of Bethlehem, "a Saviour . . . Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11). Israel rejected Him and He had to "give them up" (v. 3), but the time will come when they shall see Him as their King.

IV. His Reign—As King (5:4, 5a).

"This man shall be our peace" (v. 5, R. V.). He it is who "shall be great unto the ends of the earth" (v. 4); and that can be said of no man in all history except of Him of whom we sing,

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does his successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.
—Isaac Watts.

His shall not be the reign of a despot, for we read that "He shall feed his flock in the strength of Jehovah" (v. 4, R. V.). His enemies and the enemies of God the Father must be put down, but His people will find Him to be the tender "good shepherd" who "giveth his life for the sheep" (John 10:11). He is that now to every believer. Sinner, why not take Him now as your Saviour, your Good Shepherd, and join with His people in looking for His coming as King?

Opposition Helps

Efforts against the truth sometimes help its progress; the seal and the guard only make it more clear that the Savior rose from the dead. —Broadus.

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Transylvania To Hold Vocational Conference

Senior students from Carlisle and Nicholas county high schools have been invited to participate in Transylvania College's first annual vocational guidance day conference, to be held on the Lexington campus on Wednesday, April 24, it was recently announced by Ira W. Langston, assistant to the Trasylvania president.

Approximately 2,000 students are expected to take part in the day's instructive activities, it was stated.

Headlining the list of speakers will be Dr. F. H. Kirkpatrick, dean of Bethany College, Bethany, W. Va., according to the program. Dr. Kirkpatrick, who has done considerable work in vocational guidance and student placement, will give the keynote address of the day. After the opening session, at which Dr. Kirkpatrick will speak, the assembly will be divided into five smaller groups to hear speakers of interest to students preparing to enter different vocational avenues.

Among the five speakers for the second morning session will be Robert K. Salyers, of Lexington and Louisville, state NYA administrator. He will speak to the group interested in entering professional vocations.

Another outstanding speaker of the day will be H. Collins Spillman, representative of the National Manufacturers' Association, who will address the student group interested in entering the trades vocations.

During the afternoon the students again will be divided into smaller groups for discussions of specific vocations. Thirty-five such meetings have been arranged, representing as many trades and professions.

After the final meeting of the afternoon, the students will be entertained at a tea-dance at Lyons-Hamilton hall, it was announced.

Believed to be the first conference of its kind held for high school seniors in this area, the sessions were planned "to give the graduating students a broader view of vocations open to them and to acquaint them with the training necessary, the opportunities in the various fields, the means of acquiring the necessary training, and the personal qualifications necessary for success in the various occupations," Mr. Langston stated.

OUR TYPICAL STATE

(Frankfort State Journal)

Kentucky, perhaps, is the most typical American state, combining the most homogeneous population with the greatest geographical diversity.

The two fundamental factors of what sociologists mean by "culture," from the Democratic gulf coastal plain of the Democratic gulf coastal plain of the Democratic Purchase to the Republican Cumberland Plateau, caused our most eminent geologist, Nathaniel Shaler, to observe the "geology of Kentucky politics." It was the underlying rock structures of overlying alluvial deposits that gave to our Mountains, Bluegrass, Pennyrile and Purchase.

That goes for such subjects as national politics, but when it comes to common interests, the homogeneous population react the same from "Millses Pan" to Sandy Valley.

Predominantly an agricultural state, naturally the community of interests lies principally in that direction. Geographical differences of cotton, corn, tobacco and grazing areas seems to make no difference in the degree of interest by sections since diversification has become the order of the day.

For instance, these items from scattered points appear in one week's reports of farm agents. Anderson County Homemakers are landscaping school ground, in Ohio they are promoting a community center at Beaver Dam.

While Jessamine farmers are importing 1,000 western ewes and 100 registered rams, Edmonson farmers are keeping complete records of fifteen flocks of western and fifteen flocks of native ewes; Breckinridge is putting on a purebred sires and beef cattle tour; 400 Henry county farmers attend a conference on livestock diseases; twenty-six Marshall county farmers undertake to keep complete farm records; Perry county farmers enlist merchants in the distributing of certified seed potatoes, and Owsley farmers are following the proposal of a county planning committee to raise strawberries as a cash crop on the South Fork of the Kentucky far from a railroad.

These are but a few of the far-flung progressive activities which embrace tree-planting, soil replenishment, individual and collective experiments, cooperative buying and selling and home and community improvement to increase the state's wealth and make living conditions better.

Perhaps the automobile and the depression combined to teach the farmer that he doesn't have to go to town for the latter; but he also has learned that the curse of the "cash crop" is over-doing it. The "cash crop," such as cotton or tobacco, is a very nice thing in its place. The curse of it is the "one-crop" system.

NOTICE
MERCURYS ON SALE AT TUREMAN'S & CARLISLE DRUG

THE REPETITION OF HISTORY

(Cincinnati Enquirer)

One hundred years ago, in the year 1840, President Van Buren in his message to Congress aid:

"With all the powers of the world our relations are those of honorable peace. If clouds have lowered in other hemispheres, they have not cast their portentous shadows upon our happy shores—yet it behooves us to be prepared for any event. In the shock of contending empires it is only by assuming a resolute bearing and clothing themselves with defensive armor that neutral nations can maintain their independent rights."

A century has passed since these words were written, yet President Roosevelt might use them today and they would not be inappropriate. President Van Buren said we must keep our army and our navy prepared. We were not in 1840 thinking of attacking anyone; but with a strong army and an efficient navy no one would attack us. All the country wanted then was to be let alone. And the surest way of being certain we would not be mixed up in what the President called the "shock" of contending empires was to be so prepared that we could defend ourselves.

Rural Life Program Subject Of Institute

Several hundred rural leaders in Kentucky will gather at the State College of Agriculture April 29-May 3 to hear discussions on the theme, "What is a Desirable Rural Life Program for Kentucky?" by some of the country's outstanding churchmen and educators. This is the sixth year that the Rural Leadership Institute has been held under the sponsorship of the Kentucky Rural Church Council in cooperation with the agricultural college.

Among specific subjects to be considered are democracy and social control, the relation of government to social and economic affairs, an adequate philosophy of modern rural life, unity and diversity in society, desirable relations among nations, etc. Among lecturers from out-of-state will be Dr. Carl Taeusch, chief of the division of program study and discussion of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Dr. Arthur E. Holt of Chicago Theological Seminary, Dr. Henry C. Taylor, director of The Farm Foundation, Chicago, and Dr. O. F. Hall, sociology professor of Purdue University. Also on the program are Dr. Francis Hutchins, president of Berea College, Dr. Henry Noble Sherwood, president of Georgetown College, Dr. Raymond F. McLain, president of Transylvania College, and Dr. John Sampey, president of the Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville.

Dr. H. W. McLaughlin, director of the country church department of the Presbyterian church in the U. S., will speak several times, as will Mr. J. B. Hutson, assistant administrator of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration at Washington.

Mr. Herbert Agar, editor of The Louisville Courier-Journal and a noted writer, will be the principal speaker at the annual banquet.

Tobacco Chewers Blamed For Mosaic

Tobacco chewers are one of the principal sources of mosaic disease, according to a new leaflet written by Dr. W. D. Valleau and Dr. E. M. Johnson of the Kentucky College of Agriculture. Tests show that chewing workers pass the disease from their hands to the plants while weeding, pulling or setting.

Most manufactured brands are considered safe to use. If workers must use non-processed tobacco, then their hands should be thoroughly washed before they handle plants. There are other sources of infection, one being the use of diseased tobacco for fertilizer.

Kentucky Native Fruit Neglected

Although home orchards are notoriously neglected and unproductive a good supply of fruit can be grown with satisfaction on most farms in Kentucky. So declares Prof. A. J. Olney, head of the department of horticulture at the State College of Agriculture, in a circular on "Planning and Planting an Orchard." Plantings have not been sufficient to replace the old orchards that are going out of production, he says.

So far as commercial fruit production is concerned, Prof. Olney advises careful consideration of conditions in the country as a whole. In many places, however, he sees opportunities to produce apples for local sales and markets.

Kentucky Pastures And Grain In Fair Condition

Kentucky's small grains and pastures were in only fair condition as of April 1 but were making very rapid growth under recent favorable weather according to the April 1 crop and livestock report for Kentucky issued by the Louisville office of H. F. Bryant, Kentucky statistician for the U. S. Agricultural Marketing Service.

The condition of wheat April 1 indicates a probable production of 1,410,000 bushels in Kentucky this year compared to 4,071,000 bushels produced in 1939 and 5,566,000 bushels the 10-year (1929-38) average production. The unusually high yield per acre in 1937 produced an unusually large total production. This April 1 forecast will be subject to revision hereafter depending on later development of the crop.

Rye condition in Kentucky April 1 this year was only 71 per cent of normal compared to 77 per cent a year ago and the April 1 10-year average of 85 per cent.

Pastures of all kinds were backward, averaging only 65 per cent of normal April 1 this year compared to 80 per cent a year ago when they were unusually early, and 75 per cent the April 1 10-year average.

Daily milk production of 9.8 pounds per cow in herds of Kentucky farmers reporting compared with 10.2 pounds April 1, 1939, and 9.7 pounds average for April 1, 1929-38.

Quail Being Distributed In 108 Kentucky Counties

Liberation of the Bob White Quail in Kentucky by the Division of Game and Fish assisted by the sportsmen of the state is practically finished. This work has been going on for the past two weeks and upon completion will have covered 108 of the 120 counties of the state.

S. A. Wakefield, assistant Director of the Division, stated that of the 12 counties passed by in the liberation some were not suited for quail propagation and others did not have sportsmen's organizations to help in the releasing of the birds and of protecting them through the nesting season.

With the quail placed over such a wide territory in the state and receiving the protection of the sportsmen and farmers throughout the summer and early fall months, they should be augmented by the birds already in the fields to be able to multiply to such an extent as to furnish splendid hunting next fall.

Fertilizer Brings Kentucky Farmers More Than Ten Million Dollars

Extra dollar returns on Tobacco, Vegetables, and Corn, which farmers received Nationally for each dollar spent on fertilizer.

The gigantic sum—three billion dollars—which farmers have received from the Government under the AAA since 1933 is equaled by the extra dollar value of increased yields produced by fertilizer in the same period, according to estimates made from personal interviews with 32,000 farmers in 35 States.

Kentucky farmers gave the interviewers grass-root facts which show that for every dollar they spent for fertilizer they received an average return in increased yields of $3.75. In other words, Kentucky farmers spent $2,792,000 for fertilizer. The extra return which they received from its use amounted to $10,476,000, leaving an increased income above the cost of the fertilizer of $7,684,000.

The returns from each dollar Kentucy invested in fertilizer, as shown by The National Fertilizer Association survey, varied from crop to crop. Tobacco led the list with an increased value return of $9.02. Corn ranked well up with a return of $2.38. Other crops reported were wheat, which brought $2.11 for each dollar invested, and barley, $2.20.

Kentucky farmers also had their say about the effects of fertilizer on quality of crops. Over 82 per cent said they got better market quality in all cash crops, while 51 per cent said they got better feeding quality in grain and hay, and 10 per cent declared they observed better shipping quality in fruits and vegetables.

Average return in increased yields for all crops in all States shown by the survey was $3.60 for each dollar spent on fertilizer. Nationwide, the crops showing highest rate of return were: tobacco, cotton, fruits, and vegetables.

MONEY TALKS

By Frederick W. Stamm, Economist and Director of Adult Education University of Louisville

It may seem as if the American farmer has not benefited from this war as he did from the last one; the war in Europe has shrunk, rather than expanded, the export demand for American farm products.

The exports of tobacco and fruits have been particularly hard hit. Exports of pork, lard and cotton have been far below expectation. Wheat prices have moved up partly because of poor crop conditions here, in South America and in Europe.

It is clear the French and British are buying Australian, Argentinian, and Canadian grain and South African and Brazilian cotton to feed nd clothe their soldiers.

Why have the allies purchased their foodstuff elsewhere? Partly because they can buy more cheaply within their empires; partly because they wish to keep the Balkan countries tied to them economically and consequently have purchased large amounts of Balkan foodstuff; and partly because they must conserve their American purchasing power to buy airplanes, munitions and war supplies. They can buy food elsewhere but the United States is the only place where they can get the war supplies they need so badly. Therefore the American farmer is now suffering.

Yet this suffering—this absence of a war boom in agriculture—may be a real blessing in disguise. Because many of the present day problems of the American farmer can be traced directly to the last world war with its high farm prices, tremendous expandion of wheat acreage, and the land buying scramble at high prices. In the wake of this, inevitably, came low farm prices, a huge burden of debt and bankruptcy.

Although the farmers have not benefitted by high farm prices so far during this war, they may not be plagued by low prices and agricultural maladjustment when hostilities cease. An agricultural program based on sound domestic economy is far better than one based upon war markets.

U. K. Prof Writes Textbook On American Government

A textbook on "Government of the American People," written by Dr. John W. Manning, director of the Bureau of Government Research and professor of political science at the University of Kentucky, Lexington, in collaboration with Prof. Jeremiah S. Young of the University of Minnesota and Prof. Joseph I. Arnold, State Teachers College, Bridgewater, Mass., will come from the press of D. C. Heath and Company, this month.

The book, written at the invitation of the publisher, is a survey of American government showing the relationship between national, state and local government, designed to offer a basis for an introductory course in American government for an entire year's study. There are 41 chapters in the textbook, 20 of which were written by Doctor Manning.

Among the new features of the textbook is the compromise course which it follows between the traditional course of writing a textbook on the subject, and the newer, functional approach in which the authors take different functions of state and national government regardless of the unit.

Be not discouraged at broken and spilled resolutions; but to it and to it again!—Coleridge.

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Tidbits of Kentucky Folklore

BY Gordon Wilson, Ph.D.
WESTERN KENTUCKY TEACHERS COLLEGE
BOWLING GREEN, KY.

HOKUM AT OLD FIDELTY

All the world loves to be taken in; it has become one of our national charactericts to enjoy deceit and to pay handsomely those can fool us bst. Fidelity probably did not know this literally, but it bit, even as you and I. One day at the country school a former citizen who had gone away into foreign parts (several miles and one county away) returned and announced that he would give an expose of black art at the union church on the following night. The children wanted to go, especially after he did a little "suggestionizing", as he called it and had a few of the worst boys of the school doing stunts that they pretended they could not help, such as scratching places he would touch and declare that he had a burning stick in his hand. We went home and told our parents, most of whom said "Humbug" but gave us the necessary nickles and dimes to go see the show. Some of the oldest inhabitants, who had not experienced a thrill since Lee's Surrender dug up the admission fee also, so that our returned native had a rather good crowd, better than the average Sunday School could show at the union church itself. I still recall that I was somewhat scared as we went, for I was not sure the man was honest. (I still am not.) He might be allied with evil spirits or something. By sitting near my big brother, though, I managed to keep brave.

It would be a feat of memory to recall all of the hokum we were fed that night. For one thing the room was darkened, not hard thing to do with the meager lamps we had. Then he lit some dim little lamps that would cast his stage into shaadow. He picked up a large dial like a clock face and seemed to suspend it in the air. When he asked for a certain hour, the hands raced along, and so did chills down my spine. He was honest enough to throw a beam of one of his lights on the darkness of the stage and reveal his attendant clad in black and holding the mysterious clock face. He repeated some of his suggestionizing he had used in our school and was able to make the same bad boy do other freakish things. I recall that these seemed not very thrilling after the performance the day before. I had begun to suspect that the boys had been coached. Then he hypnotized one of the boys completely and made him do stunts that he explained to us, were impossible in normal life. The chosen should have remained in this state, for he was worth more to the community as a monkey dancing to the organist's music than he ever was before or afterwards. Rather oddly, the village ecentric went forward to be tried out for hypnotism and was able to stave off any suggestions. We hardly knew whether to admire his horse sense or to blame him for being a dumbbell. After all these years I profoundly admire his grit in failing to make an idiot of himself for the fake performer. The evening went on, getting a little more freakish all the time. By the time it was over, we had so lost patience with the man, and his helper, and the bad village boys that we were not even afraid to go home across the fields & woods. Unlike my memory of going to the tent show and to the exhibition of the phonograph, this memory is still unpleasant, and I want my dime back. I wanted to be fooled, and I wasn't; I wanted to see some magic demonstation, and I didn't; I wanted to have my love of the mysterious strengthened, and I came back disgusted with the whole show. The native who had returned somehow failed to be convincing.

Kathleen Norris Says:

Young Wives, Beware!

(Bell Syndicate—WNU Service.)

Yesterday a lawyer from Bill's town called on me. He says that Bill's wife has gotten possession of these letters.

By KATHLEEN NORRIS

WHEN the mother of a 16 or 18-year-old girl advises her against doing something, or warns her about it, she is usually actuated by pure affection and loyalty to her daughter.

She knows that the years between 16 and 25 are the years when a woman who is indiscreet, reckless, inexperienced, can throw away all the happiness of her later years.

Thousands of girls do, and live to regret it for the rest of their lives. But somehow they never will believe that their mothers are right.

'Mother Old-Fashioned.'

"My mother hasn't the least idea of how things are today," they write me. "Mama is so old-fashioned that it's perfectly maddening. Mama thinks the most innocent things are dangerous. Mother doesn't want me to have any fun. My mother is always afraid of what the neighbors will think."

Any explanation of her anxieties will do, except that she is your mother, and loves you, and wants you to grow safely to honorable and happy womanhood, and not make mistakes.

"My mother talked to me the night before I was married," writes a Pennsylvania woman, "and if I'd taken her advice seriously I might have spared myself the misery I'm in today. But I always thought of Mother as straightlaced and fussy, and I didn't pay much attention. She told me always to put Len first in everything, and like all brides, I did make a great fuss over him at first. We had a dear little boy and were very happy for the first few years.

Knew Billy as Girl.

"Then a man I will call Billy turned up. I had known him as a girl, and we had had a pretty exciting love affair, of which I had told Len. Nothing wrong, but we had been engaged, and I thought Len ought to know.

"Mother had never liked Billy, partly because he is divorced, partly because he is quite a sport. But he is very attractive to women, and when he showed that he still admired me I didn't mind making Van a little jealous. This worried Mother terribly, for she adores Van.

"When Billy went away after a short visit he asked me to correspond with him. He sent me books and articles, once a beautiful handkerchief, and once perfume. His letters were amusing and admiring and I answered them, saying a good deal more than I really felt. This was about a year ago. We wrote each other about every 10 days, so I suppose he has at least 30 of my letters.

Bill's Lawyer Appears.

"Yesterday a lawyer from Bill's town called on me with a great deal of discretion and secrecy that drove me nearly mad. He says that Bill's wife has gotten possession of these letters. Never having dreamed that he was married at all, I was shocked beyond words. I said that I had not known that Mr. D. was married, whereupon this horrible man said, 'But you knew you were, didn't you?' She wants $1,500 for the letters or she will sue for divorce, naming me. Some of these letters I signed 'Your-little-wife-that-should-have-been,' and others the pet names he had given me in his letters. Our actual relationship was always strictly within the bonds of morality, of course.

"I did not close my eyes last night and I am half frantic today. At first this lawyer said he would be here until I decided what to do, but he telephoned this morning to say he is going back to Trenton, and will wait to hear from me. What maddens me was that I have never been in love with Bill, but only enjoyed this correspondence as a sort of romance. My husband and child are my very lifeblood, and any thought of trouble at home breaks my heart. I do not even know that Bill is married; it may be that he needs money and trusts he will get it this way. For the sake of a home, a good husband and an innocent baby do, do help me find some way out!"

Thrills at an End.

Poor Joan, she has had a whole year of flattery and excitement and the thrill of a secret love affair, she has made nothing of Len's rights and Len's dignity, and now she expects to be extricated from it in a few minutes! The mischief has been far too long in building for that.

Her only way out is one of humiliation and courage and risk. Joan has been stuffing greedily on poisonous sweets for 12 whole months. Now for emetics and castor oil and general wretchedness.

For she will have to tell the whole story to her husband at once, and have him get in touch with some friend in Trenton, or some city authority, who can find out exactly what the engaging Billy's marital status is. If he really is married, then Van, Joan's husband, might write him, remind him that he has some letters from Joan, and ask their return. This may work, inasmuch as Billy may not want trouble with his wife over them, should Joan turn the tables and inform her of anything that has been going on. If Billy isn't married, the matter is comparatively simple. Joan's husband may ask for the letters, thus showing Billy that he knows of their existence, and so spiking Billy's guns on blackmail. Then forget the whole thing.

Joan Must Confess.

Whatever the outcome, Joan's complete confession to her husband must be the next step.

"And is it a crime to write to a man when you're married to another?" many a young wife who is playing with the same sort of fire may indignantly demand. No, but the advice of Joan's mother was good advice. Put your husband first. Don't do anything that you wouldn't like him to do. Keep your men friends, of course. But keep them as a wife, not a flirt. Act like a woman embarked upon a serious business, not a free lance still in the market for affairs. There's no law against writing letters, affectionate, romantic, emotional, to a married man. There's no law against making a complete fool of yourself. There's no law against living on chocolate cake and sleeping in a bathtub.

Terrible Alternative.

For a long time after this scalding experience Joan will be a very meek and devoted little wife. She'll have to be. The alternative, divorce, and the surrender of her child, as being an unfit mother, is too expensive. A few of those "little-wife-that-should-have-been" letters would convince any court of domestic relations that Joan was a pretty flighty parent. She's now put a strong weapon into Van's hands. For months, perhaps for years, he won't believe anything she says. If she demonstrates affection for him, if she cuddes the small boy, praises her home, expresses herself as happy, Van may look on with a cold and unconvinced eye.

So don't despise mother's suggestions, you younger girls. They have been won from that same hard school of experience that you have to face. They form that most valuable possession that a wife or any other woman can have. The impalpable, undefinable, indispensable thing called CODE.

Warning to Wives

Here is a warning to young wives of 1940, who think they can eat their cake and have it to. Many young wives, according to Kathleen Norris, seem to feel that once the security of a home and husband is their's they can put that security on the shelf and start looking around for new playthings.

But that style of living doesn't always work out. Sometimes the little lady gets burned. Mothers still insist that their young daughters who are married should put friend husband first in their hearts. But the daughters often think that Mother is old-fashioned and doesn't know about "modern" men.

Usually though, they learn that Mother is right. Naturally it's all right to know men other than your husband but "affairs"—no matter how innocent—are out.

And if the mistake is ever made—if Mrs. Young Wife does engage in an "affair"—she had better tell Hubby and start all over again. Unless she does tell him she isn't playing fair and some day she'll get caught. Then it may be too late to forget.

World Revolver Record

Walter Walsh, a Federal Bureau of Investigation agent, came within two points of a perfect score of 300 in setting a new world record for revolver shooting.

Boardwalk to the Moon

The 50,000,000 board feet of wood consumed annually in the United States would be sufficient to build a boardwalk one inch thick and 40 feet wide from the earth to the moon, a government calculation shows.

Salted peanuts blend well with chocolate or butterscotch sauce used to top ice creams. Serve the sauce hot or cold.

Highway to Court

Taking a tip from rubber expansion joint fillers used to halt heat buckling on concrete highways, west coast tennis officials are constructing concrete courts with white rubber joint fillers which allow for summer expansion and also serve as permanent court markings.

Large West Indies Islands

The size of some West Indies islands surprises many cruise tourists. Cuba is three times the size of Holland, while Haiti-Santo Domingo is twice the size of Switzerland, while the combined land area of all the islands is larger than Great Britain.

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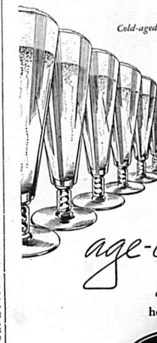

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