ANNE HIRST
Your Family Counselor

"Dear Anne Hirst: How long do you think a widower in his 50's should wait before making dates? I realize this is extremely personal, but is there such a thing as a conventionally accepted period? (It seems to me that as one grows older the period should grow shorter.)

"I have developed a typically adolescent crush on a man with whom I have had one arranged date. He appeared to have a wonderful time, but I haven't heard from him since. I had the feeling he was a little surprised at himself for enjoying another woman's company so soon after his wife's death, which occurred eight months ago.

"We are in the same age group and are professional people with interesting jobs; we own our own homes in which we each live alone, our respective children being married. My husband has been dead several years, and I am truly lonely. I honestly don't care whether I remarry, but I would love to have a congenial companion for my leisure hours.

"I wrote him a decorously enthusiastic letter just thank you for the expensive evening we had together as part of a group and have had no reply. Can you suggest anything further I could do that would not be overbold? I guess you'll say it's really up to him at this point. He is really a dream-boat, and I can't help feeling —

HOPEFUL."

WHY NOT?

* If this man enjoyed himself as much as he seemed to, he may be feeling a little guilty, * in which case he would hesitate to take the next step. * However, there's no reason * why you shouldn't arrange a * dinner at your home, inviting * him and another couple who * joined you the evening of * your first date. The man could * accept or decline, and at any * rate will know that a call from * him later on would be welcome.

The accepted mourning period before a man renews his social life after his mate's death varies with the customs of one's community. It seems to me that after a year, he might call on other women without criticism. I agree that the waiting time should diminish as one grows older — life is so short! One advantage of middle age is that it gives one the privilege to make his or her own rules.

Whether the man considers marrying again or not, a pleasant friendship could be encouraged, and you can be trusted to guide it where you will.

* * *

FAITHLESS LAD

"Dear Anne Hirst: For nine months I have been in love with a boy whom I trusted completely. Now I have heard he is having an affair with a girl whose reputation is not good. I asked him about it, and he denied it flatly. But the other day I saw them together.

"Now he admits the gossip is true. He swears he made a mistake, and asks me to forgive him and forget it. What do you think? My mother is against my dating him. I do love him very much, but I don't want anybody I cannot trust.

Your mother is right. If the boy admitted the truth of the story and promised not to see the girl again, he might become trustworthy again, but he continued to deny the truth until he was found out. To make a mistake is human, but the honorable person does not hide behind a lie.

If you cannot accept his word, what is his friendship worth?

You will miss him for a while, but that will not be as painful as having him deceive you in the future. Let him know once and for all that you are one girl who values truth above everything.

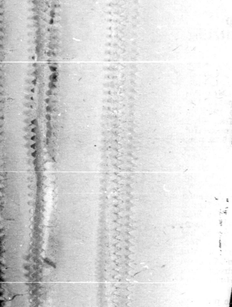
* * *

Middle-aged people with tact and grace can follow their own inclinations in a way adolescents can't. If you are in a quandary, ask Anne Hirst what to do. Her understanding and common sense will guide you safely. Address her at Box 1, 123 Eighteenth St., New Toronto, Ont.

COINS BORE HEADS IN ANCIENT TIMES

The first time the likeness of a human being appeared on a coin was about the year 350 B.C. according to the Book of Knowledge. At that time the coins of Macedon were imprinted with the portrait of Alexander the Great. Before then the portraits on coins had represented the various gods. It is by means of these coin portraits that reasonable likenesses of many early Greek and Roman rulers, of whom no other such record exists, have been passed down to the present time. Julius Caesar, Augustus, Nero and Cleopatra are amongst those commemmorated in this way.

"Flower" Apron



by Laura Wheeler

Pick this pretty "flower" for your serving apron—fashioned of remnants in shades of vivid colour! Sew simple to make for a smart hostess gift, bazaar best-seller!

Pattern 623: Embroidery transfer, directions for making a "flower" apron, 17 inches long.

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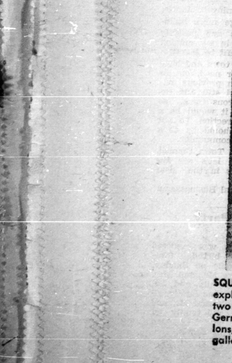

SQUEEZE PLAY—With tongue in cheek, Dr. Robert Rose, right, explains that only by coordinating their breathing did he and two companions ride "comfortably". The gas tank of the tiny Germoni-made Lambretti-300, of Italian design, holds only 2.4 gallons, but that's enough, as the doodlebug gets 60 miles to the gallon. Its six-horsepower motor cruises at 60 miles per hour.

OCTOPUS LOOK—Two girls lend legs to Paris model Marif-Jose to give her multi-limbed look in showing latest in fancy footwear for the spring season.

CHRONICLES OF GINGER FARM
by Gwendoline P. Clarke

Last week I ended my column with an unbelievably prophetic statement. I said "by next week we may be snowed in — who knows?" And we have been — more or less. Trucks and cars with chains or snowtires managed to get through to the house but that's about all. There is more snow in the lane now than we have had for several years. There is also a big snowman on the front lawn. No, we have neither of us reached our second childhood—we hope! The snowman was built by two little tots and their mother who were staying with us all last week. Niece Betty and her children—Susan, age two and a half and Michael nineteen months old. Two of the nicest and happiest wee souls anyone could want to have around. True, they made plenty of noise, got into mischief and had crying spells. But one can forgive all that if the children have nice dispositions. Deliver me from youngsters who are spiteful, peevish, and spoilt. There were times last week when this old place was really a mad-house. One day two neighbour-children came to visit and when the four of them got properly acquainted and started to play—shrieking, laughing and chasing each other through the rooms—it was really terrific. The same thing happened the Sunday before when Dave was out here. The rest of us sit back and marvel at their energy. I generally manage to get the menfolk into a room by themselves so they can talk if they want to without too much interruption.

Niece Betty and her family were here for a last visit before heading North—to Sudbury—as her husband has been transferred to a hydro project in that region. I suppose it will be a long time before the children are back on a farm again—more's the pity as they do love to see the heifers kick up their heels and the old biddies cackle and scratch. There certainly must be an affinity between children and animals. David is just as keen. If grandpa goes to the barn without him there is really a howl.

We seem to live a life of contrasts these days. When Partner and I are alone the house is unbelivably quiet but it is usually the lull before a storm —a storm such as I have just mentioned, created by childish exuberance and energy. However, this weekend will probably be uneventful, except that Joy and Bob may be up. Neither weather nor roads hinder them when they want to come—and they usually do if for no other reason than to get eggs. Sometimes we ask them if they come to see us or to get eggs!

Eggs . . . Dee and Joy both say they never get eggs from a store the size that our hens lay even though what they pay for are supposed to be Grade A. Large. They wonder where the big eggs go. We are puzzled about that too. We rarely see eggs for sale as big as those we sell — and certainly they can't be as fresh. But we are very well satisfied with the milk now that we have to buy it. Homogenized milk is far more palatable than fresh milk straight from the cow, to say nothing of pasteurization. And the skim milk we buy for ourselves is very good indeed. We have also been experimenting with citrus fruits and juices. Besides our morning grapefruit we like oranges sometimes during the day. But good oranges are about the hardest things to buy. You never know until you peel your orange how thick the skin is, or how dry and pithy the orange may be. So now we buy either concentrated orange juice in small cans or pure juice in cartons. But the question remains —where are the good oranges like we had when I was a child? No artificial colouring, thin skins and lots of juice. How can the quality of oranges change so much?

And then we come to potatoes. Potatoes that look fine on the outside but have great cavities on the inside. Some have dry-rot or the beginning of ring-rot and go black when they are boiled. The grading may not be intentionally dishonest as many defections do not show on the outside. Last week I bought a sack of potatoes that were really Grade A.I.—but they were not Ontario potatoes. We had a lot of wet weather last year during the potato growing season so we can hardly blame the potato growers for the poor quality. We should rather pity them for the loss they incurred.

Ah well, some things improve with the years, some don't. Potatoes and oranges may be inferior but we like the way children are dressed now compared with years ago. Thick heavy clothing, gum rubbers and overshoes were the best we had to offer. Now children have padded nylon snow-suits, fur-lined boots and they go out warm and unhampered. They roll around in the snow and remain warm and dry. The only drawback is zipping them into the blessed things. Grandmas need a little education to perform that job successfully. I have finally reached the stage of getting the cocoon out of its covering but getting it back in again is another story! Mother generally has to come to the rescue.

The per capita consumption of beef this year will break all previous records, according to the latest estimates of farm management specialists. The per capita consumption figure for 1955 was 81 pounds, but for 1956 is estimated to reach 83 pounds.

Dog's Long Wait

An unusual and touching story of a lost dog comes from New Zealand. A family of four were on a motor tour there when during a stop, their dog wandered into the thick bush, and failed to return.

For hours the family searched frantically, but as dusk was falling, they had to give up and drive sadly away without the dog.

About nine months later they were travelling again over the same desert road, thinking wistfully of their missing pet, when suddenly, to their amazement, they saw him, sitting forlornly by the side of the road at the place where he had left the car.

Evidently, the dog had kept patient vigil there, day after day during the long and weary months, awaiting their return.

An old Maori living in a nearby hut confirmed this and said that he had fed the dog whenever he was hungry during his nine-months' vigil.

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ISSUE 11 — 1957

At Age Two, He's 'Seeing Eye' For Parents —

"And a little child shall lead them . . ." This familiar quotation is a reality in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hathaway. The child is only two years old. He is their son, Clarence. Both parents are totally deaf. Furthermore, his dad is blind and his mother sees only dimly. But already, rising to what he seems to feel is his responsibility, little Clarence is helping them overcome their handicaps. His understanding shows in the way he clasps their hands to guide them. He hands them things. When it is time for mail, he summons his dad with a trouser-leg tug and shepherds him to the mailbox. He guides them on shopping trips, taking them in and out of stores and onto buses. So far, Clarence is sober-faced and silent though his parents make a point of talking to him. Between themselves they use finger messages on the palms of their hands. He's expected to begin talking when he starts to nursery school.

"Little Eagle Eye," as his parents call two-year-old Clarence Hathaway, leads his blind father, Harold, to the mailbox.

A bit gooey, but a gesture of love. Clarence digs his finger into birthday cake icing and passes a gob to his mother.

Ty Cobb Talks About Batting

"Did you take a long lead off base?" the young fellow at the baseball clinic asked.

"Just as long as they'd let me," came the grinning reply from the No. 1 man in the game's Hall of Fame, Ty Cobb.

Looking chipper, the former batting and base running star was the principal speaker recently at the Stanford gathering of baseball men. His topics ran the gamut from a recommendation that hitters be given more leeway, to an explanation of his formula for getting himself out of a batting slump.

Most of his remarks came in answer to questions as young players and coaches kept him busy demonstrating batting stances and base running positions.

Cobb grasped the bat the way he did during 23 years in the majors—with both hands spread well apart.

"When I started playing for the town team, I was just 12 and had to hold the bat that way to punch the ball for hits," he explained. "If you keep your hands apart, they won't cramp together when you swing."

On the matter of hitting, Cobb maintained, "you can develop a player's ability better if you give him a little more leeway. I don't think anybody sitting on a bench should tell a batter which ball to hit.

"If you're going to develop confidence in him, you've got to let him decide . . . If there are men on base, a batter should have the privilege of hitting the ball he wants to hit."

Cobb's argument was against telling a batter, for instance, to let the first pitch go by or to let the ball go by with a three-ball and one-strike situation.

"The element of surprise is important," he said. "If a pitcher knows you will take the first pitch, he's liable to serve it up a cripple. Hit and you can hurt the pitcher psychologically."

The erstwhile fiercy competitor, who compiled a lifetime average of .367, recalled that on one occasion Chief Bender threw a curve that he hit to the fence.

"Bender was a little too smart," he laughed. "He remembered that I'd hit that curve and never did throw me another. He didn't know how lucky I thought I'd been to hit that one.

Someone wanted to know, "How did you go about getting out of a batting slump?"

Cobb replied that when he was hitting well he would have a couple of players watch him. Then when he'd slump, he'd ask them what he was doing differently and try to return to the former style.

"Then I'd have a pitcher come in close and throw and I'd bunt, bunt, bunt. Then I'd try to hit a little harder. Next, with the pitcher back on the mound, I'd bunt some more and then start taking swings.

"You have to work back into the proper timing."

What is most important in hitting?"

"Concentration is the main thing. Get set and then think only of the pitcher and the ball."

Did you aim at a certain spot?

"No. I'd practice hitting through a certain zone, such as between first and second or between second and short."

Cobb claimed the players of today are just as good as we were, but they don't hit as well. Too much emphasis on the long ball."

HORSE SPLASH — Leading her horse to water is no problem for Marion Lisehoe as she and her mount, "Largah," thrill audiences at the Aquafair. Like a western film hero, Marion rides the horse off a 40-foot diving board.

Forest Of Bloom

I set out early in May. Climbing for three days from the 3,000-foot-high plain of Kathmandu to the 12,000 feet of the Saono Mani ridge, I first crossed lush terraced mountain-slopes, astonishing examples of the zeal and patience of the peasant . . . Human ants, long caravans of Tamangs in Indian file — the women wearing numerous necklaces of red beads—carried their produce: bamboo baskets one inside the other, massive planks of reddish wood, rectangular loads of hand-made fibrous paper, enormous bunches of green boughs which entirely hid the porter's body . . .

The woods and forests astonished me in their turn. They bristled with black, branchless trunks like stumps, almost leafless, for in this region there is so little grass for the cattle that the peasants cut the foliage to feed cows and buffalo, just as they do in Auvergne in the heart of France. This habit, added to the activity of the woodcutters, is gradually killing the forest which would maintain the soil under the attack of the violent monsoon rains. As for the largest oak trees, they are burned where they stand, their trunks crowned with smoke, for their ash is needed to whiten the paper made on the spot from the bark of the daphne. The industry is so large that it has given its name to the people of the district.

No one who has not seen them can imagine the overwhelming splendour and richness of a forest of tree rhododendrons . . . pale ivory-yellow, salmon-pink and mauve — the latter growing up to 10,000 feet. Words cannot paint a tree dotted with blood-red flowers standing out against the receding blue slopes tinged with purple by distance, under the dark indigo of the sky, whilst beyond shimmers the satin of the Himalayan snows. — From "The Land of the Sherpas," by Ella Maillart.

Tunney Down For 14 Seconds

Referee Dave Barry stepped in as Gene Tunney slumped to the canvas, badly hurt from Jack Dempsey's two-handed attack.

"Go to a neutral corner, Jack," Barry said.

"I stay here," snapped Dempsey, with a scowl.

Tunney had fallen directly over my press row seat and I heard the exchange between Dempsey and Barry clearly. The referee had come up, arm ready to start the count, then realized Dempsey was not moving. He took Jack by the arm, but it was a couple of valuable seconds before Dempsey cleared out and the count could be started writes Nat Fleischer, America's leading fight authority.

Gene was, of course, the seventh round of the second Dempsey-Tunney fight at Chicago, Sept. 22, 1927. For most of six rounds, Dempsey was in trouble with Tunney. He simply could not catch Gene and was taking a good lacing while trying it.

But here in the seventh, the famed killing power in Dempsey's fists had exploded. He hurt Tunney with a left hook, then a short right fogged Gene's brain. A terrible battering stacked Tunney against the ropes, where he took as murderous a left hook as ever seen, then a series of short rights before going down.

It was to be 14 seconds before Tunney came off the floor. That was my count and that is the way it will remain in my history. Others have argued that Tunney was down for nearly 30 seconds.

Fourteen it was, and it probably was the most valuable space of time in Tunney's life. Dempsey wanted things his way—the old way — standing directly over a fallen opponent and hitting him the moment his knee left the canvas.

Referee Barry wanted it according to the rules. So Tunney, trying to clear his head, came to one knee and waited as Barry, five seconds late in starting the count, reached nine.

Then Gene got up. And this was not a dull-minded, desperate fighter who reached his feet. The Tunney who came off the floor was, instead, a smart fighter who ranks with boxing's all-time best as a master of the science.

Gene started circling the ring. His legs moved, moved, moved. And he lured Dempsey into a mistake. The old Dempsey would have piled into him, both hands shooting. But the Dempsey who lost this fight tried to stalk the circling Tunney. He followed Gene's monotonous circles—and after a while found he didn't have the speed to catch his man.

Tunney would not gamble. Weakened, he would have been no match for Dempsey. So he kept pecking with that left jab and moving on those beautifully conditioned legs of his.

Tunney lasted the round and in the eighth, he broke out of his pecking with a short right chop which put Dempsey on the floor. Gene Tunney, heavyweight champion, was back in stride again.

The rest of the fight had Tunney in command. Dempsey won only three of the 10 rounds.

There were 104,943 fans at Chicago's Soldier Field that night. They paid a tremendous $2,658,660 to witness the battle.

And the thrill from those 14 seconds still carries over in my memory.

IT PAYS TO USE OUR CLASSIFIED COLUMNS

How Can I?
By Anne Ashley

Q. How can I remove iodine stains?

A. If iodine has been spilled on wearing apparel, cover the stains with white laundry soap and allow it to remain in cold water for at least two hours. It can then be laundered in the usual fashion and the stains will wash out.

Q. How can I prevent grease from popping?

A. Sprinkle a little flour in the frying pan and it will stop the spattering at once. Also try inverting a colander over the pan, removing it only when turning.

Q. What will loosen dirt when washing?

A. One of the most useful aids on wash day is turpentine. It will loosen dirt without the slightest injury to fabrics.

Q. How can I clean plaster statues?

A. By using a thin paste of fuller's earth and cold water, and spreading on with a soft brush. Remove the fuller's earth with tepid soapsuds and rinse in the same temperature water. Dry with a soft cloth.

Q. How can I prevent ingrowing toenails?

A. Stockings which are too short in the foot are very often the cause of ingrowing toenails. See that both the stockings and the shoes are not too short.

Q. How can I remove clogged ink from steel pens?

A. Dip them in a strong solution of ammonia water. This softens the ink and it can be easily wiped off.

Q. How can I save time in hanging wash during cold weather?

A. Try pinning all small articles, such as handkerchiefs and collars, to the towels and larger pieces before going out to hang the wash.

Q. How can I clean white kid gloves?

A. Pure alcohol is preferable to gasoline for cleaning white kid gloves. It dries quickly and without unpleasant odor of gasoline.

Q. How can I tell if an egg is fresh?

A. fresh egg is indicated by a rough surface and how quickly it dries when it is taken from boiling water.

Q. What can be done to a straw hat that droops at the brim?

A. Sponge well with the white of an egg that has been thoroughly beaten. Then place on a hat stand to dry.

Q. How can I prevent poached eggs from sticking to the pan?

A. When poaching eggs, sprinkle salt in the water before the eggs are broken into it. This prevents the eggs from sticking to the bottom of the skillet, and the skillet can be easily cleaned.

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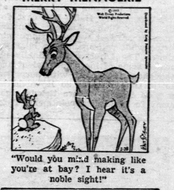

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