Girls Buy Bats For Good Luck

While a Wisconsin farmer was having a nap one evening recently, a bat flew in through an open window and bit him on the ear. The man died a day or two later from hydrophobia.

Such fatalities are rare anywhere in the world, for most species of bats are harmless and will not attack human beings. An exception is the dreaded vampire bat of the American tropics, which preys on cattle and sheep and sometimes counts man among its victims.

"Lords of the twilight" is one of the nicknames given to bats.

They have even been associated with witchcraft. Two hundred years ago a woman was executed in France as a witch simply because bats were often seen flying around her cottage at night.

In appearance bats are a strange mixture of mouse and bird although all bats are mammals. This probably accounts for many of the queer beliefs and ridiculous legends about these little creatures.

Bats in Vienna are still caught and occasionally sold to superstitious girls who believe they are lucky and can lure lovers. A man was fined $75 in South Africa for extracting money from a credulous youth in exchange for the information that his stomach was infested by a live bat!

It was a flight of three million bats that appeared to be a yawning black pit in New Mexico which led to the discovery of the mammoth Carlsbad Caverns in 1901 by a lone cowboy, Jim White.

He was nearly bowled over with surprise when he saw the bats, looking like a vast cloud of black smoke, emerge from the caves 750 feet below the scorching desert on a nightly raid in search of insects. Later, he explored the caverns.

High Finance

A salesman, trying to sell a housewife a refrigerator, pointed out: "Your cat ate enough on your food bills to pay for it."

"That's fine," answered the woman, "but you see we're paying for ours on the fares we save. Then, we're paying for our washing machine on the laundry bills we save, and we are paying for the house on the rent we are saving. It looks to me like we just can't afford to save any more at the present time."

"Do you believe in heredity?"

"I most certainly do. That's how I came into all my money."

Beginners' Beauty

by Laura Wheeler

Cover your bed with colour—fresh and fanciful tulips in print, plaid 'n' polka-dot scraps.

Two applique patches! Stems of bias binding or embroidery. One block makes a pillow to match quilt. Pattern 650; charts; directions; pattern of patches.

Send **THIRTY-FIVE CENTS** (stamps cannot be accepted, use postal note for safety) for this pattern to Laura Wheeler, Box 1, 123 Eighteenth St., New Toronto, Ont. Print plainly **PATTERN NUMBER**, your **NAME** and **ADDRESS**.

New! New! New! Our 1960 Laura Wheeler Needlecraft Book is ready NOW! Crammed with exciting, unusual, popular designs to crochet, knit, sew, embroider, quilt, weave—fashions, home furnishings, toys, gifts, bazaar hits. In the book FREE — 3 quilt patterns. Hurry, send 25 cents for your copy.

CURVY COMFORT — Like a girl lolling in a crescent moon, a model relaxes in the latest divan. Shown in Milan, Italy, the sofa is adjustable and has storage space below decks.

After last week's ice-storm it should be evident to everyone that we have become enmeshed in a net of our own weaving. A network of gadgets and conveniences by which we are trapped and left helpless if the hydro should go off for any length of time, leaving us with stoves that won't function; kettles that won't boil; furnaces that remain cold as charity; electric fixtures that fail to lighten our darkness; refrigerators that thaw and drip with de-frosted foods; washing machines and dryers that are as useful as a car without a battery.

Oh yes, I could go on with a long list of other articles — things to which we have become so accustomed we take them for granted.

Last week we would have traded any of our so-called conveniences for a good old-fashioned wood and coal burning stove. But even such a stove wouldn't have been any use because there's no place in our modern kitchen to put a stove-pipe. We have only one chimney and that takes care of the furnace and fireplace. So, although we know only too well what could happen in a power failure we, too, are caught in our own net, just the same as about ninety-five percent of our neighbours. And I'm telling you we think ourselves mighty lucky there wasn't a power break in this district. Need I say we kept our fingers crossed the best part of a week.

Come to think of it, was there ever a time like last week for bad weather? Not just locally but in practically all parts of the world — on land, on sea, in Europe, Asia, many parts of the U.S.A. and right across Canada. Naturally, as always happens, we are more concerned with districts that we know and are nearer to home. We were particularly concerned about friends in Dufferin County. We still don't know how they fared as we haven't been able to get through by telephone. One couple in their sixties is farming and depend entirely on hydro for pumping water to the barn — and of course for light. They do have fuel burning stoves so at least they would be warm. The other couple is retired and elderly, have a lovely country home in an isolated district with never a neighbour in sight. An ideal spot in summer, but in winter . . . ye gods! The thought of so much seclusion makes my blood run cold.

As I say we did not run into too much trouble around here — except for icy roads and walks. Tuesday night was the worst, freezing rain coated wires and trees making us wonder how long before the hydro gave up the ghost. Friday morning it started to snow and we felt the worst was over. We breathed a sigh of relief and a prayer of thankfulness. I didn't get out to do any shopping; our local W.I. meeting was cancelled and our television refused to function but of course they were mere details. Partner kept himself busy opening ditches, shovelling snow, chopping ice, sprinkling salt and watering ice-coated, bent-over trees — weeping birch. It was just an experiment but it worked. In a little while the trees were back to normal.

The ice-storm led me to think of farm homes — particularly houses where old-fashioned kitchens have been re-modelled — and there have been many such during the last decade. Kitchens where a modern electric stove has been installed, and the old cookstove thrown out! How foolish can we get? Remember how a few chunks of dry maple would have the stove-top red hot in a matter of minutes? On the farm we had a modern electric stove too — but we hung on to our old stove like grim death. In early spring and late fall I nearly always lit the stove for an hour or two in the morning and we enjoyed the pleasant warmth it gave until the sun was up. It came in useful in summer too. If the hydro went off during a storm a few chips from the woodpile would boil water for tea or cook our supper. We also had a coal furnace. It was dirty compared with oil. The pipes had to be cleaned twice during the winter and ashes had to be sifted every day. But at least it always gave out heat, no matter what the weather. It didn't have a motor to burn out or fuses to blow and it was certainly cheaper to operate than an oil furnace.

Yes, once in awhile we look back and realize the advantages we enjoyed in the old days but that's about as far as it goes. I suppose we shall continue to live with our "conveniences" in spite of the inconveniences that often arise. I don't suppose we shall build a chimney or buy a stove but I really think, to the end of our days, we shall have a nostalgic longing for that old kitchen range.

Well, I'd better take this to the post office. The weatherman just said — "snow, turning to freezing rain late this afternoon"! Oh no, not again!

Modern Etiquette

By Roberta Lee

Q. Is it proper for the bridegroom to give his bride something for their home as his special wedding gift to her?

A. This is not customary. His special gift to her should be something for her own personal adornment — usually jewelry of some kind.

Q. When drinking a cocktail that has a piece of fruit in it, such as orange, lemon, pineapple or cherry, is it proper to eat the fruit?

A. Yes; but be sure to do this gracefully as possible. Above all, don't be too obvious with your efforts to get at the fruit—such as tipping the glass high and then tapping on the bottom of the glass in order to loosen an elusive bit of fruit.

Q. Does a woman keep her hat on when attending an afternoon bridge party?

A. If the party is in a private home, she, of course, removes her hat. If, however, the party is in a public place, she may do as she wishes about this

Q. What is the proper order of recession at the conclusion of a church wedding ceremony?

A. Just the reverse of how the party entered the church. The bride and bridegroom should lead, followed by the bridesmaids, and finally the ushers.

Q. Is it proper to abbreviate the name of the month on the date line of a business letter?

A. No. Neither the month nor the name of the state of the addressee is abbreviated — even of the states of Mississippi or Pennsylvania. It is considered more polite to write them out.

Moonlight Can Be Dangerous

More proposals of marriage are made by moonlight than at any other time, declares a French scientist investigating the effects of moonlight on human health and happiness.

Why? Because when the moon shines brightly from an unclouded sky human emotions are at their highest point, he says.

Plenty of lovers feel this is true. They don't dismiss as "moonshine" the widely held theory that the moon's rays make for specially happy courtships.

Film stars kiss more convincingly and with more ardour at the time of a full moon, according to an American producer. He even believes that "cold moonlightlike lighting" is a great help when love scenes are being shot.

The Romans thought the moon caused madness — hence the word lunacy from the Latin luna, the moon. But any suggestion that it is harmful to walk or lie bare-headed in the moonlight was dismissed as "all moonshine" some years ago by Professor J. Arthur Thomson. He said moonlight is merely "reflected and gentle sunlight."

A New York physician says he thinks the moon makes sleepwalkers more active. The wife of an Oklahoma man only sleepwalked when the moon was full. At 2 a.m. he suddenly missed her and after searching the grounds of their home found her 20 ft. up a tree, picking the leaves and still asleep.

LIFE'S NOT THAT BAD — The characteristic lines of worry seem to be disappearing from the brow of "Troy," a basset hound, as he gets a kiss from Jo Anton, 2, at a dog show.

Everybody Loves Those Penguins

The face of Antartica is ice and snow, but its personality is a penguin.

I was a week in Antarctica before I saw my first Adélie penguin. It was up on the rookery at Cape Royds, where half a century ago a great man, Sir rnest Shackleton, built a hut and challenged a continent.

But even the hut, an appealing remnant of an heroic age, could not detain me from my long-awaited visit to the Adélies. I couldn't wait to get to the rookery.

The Adélies, with the shoe-button eyes and the comical little waddle, present the warmest and gayest aspect of an otherwise cold and saturnine land. As one writer once wrote, they are the "little people of the Antarctic world."

There are two Antarcticists among the world's penguins — tre Adélie and the Emperor. Shorter by half than the three-foot-tall Emperor, the Adélie is the dandy of the continent. Named for Mme Adélie D'Urville, wife of an early French Antarctic explorer, he is not half so dignified in bearing and behavior as the Emperor.

Early in the Antarctic summer, about mid-October, tre Adélie comes waddling — thousands of them — over the ice from the open sea in a noisy return to their ancestral rookery.

Then the great business of Adélie life — mating, stealing pebbles, building nests, and raising chicks—commences. This performance, often slapstick, has amusing and fascinated men since the days of D'Urville in tre 1840's.

The Adélie nuptial rites are filled with throaty chants, piercing cries, and weavings and bobbings to and fro. During the courting the Adélie stands with their beaks jutting straight to the sky, their bodies stretched, and their little flippers extended and flapping slowly in the cold Antarctic air.

Adélies even have trouble themselves telling male from female. But when a male finally gets things figured out he courts the fair maid with pebbles and stones, acquired in the most illegal manner. He steals them, writes John C. Waugh, in the Christian Science Monitor.

He goes out and grabs them from an unwary penguin and plops them in his own nest. As soon as he back is turned another bird steals them from him.

When the maid is won, the nest built, the eggs laid, and the frantic thievery abates, one of each penguin pair heads for the open sea, leaving its mate to look out for things at the rookery. The remaining mate will sit on the eggs, or, in fact, anything else that is handy.

During the entire courtship periods, which lasts a matter of weeks, neither mate has had a thing to eat. For about a fortnight the absent Adélie eats his or her fill and waddles back fat and shiny to relieve the hungry mate.

We stood on the rookery and watched the Adélies returning. The open water lay about 20 miles across the ice from Cape Royds. In bunches as far as our eyes could see the Adélies were waddling hurriedly and happily home.

The two mates alternate in this strange shuttle system from rookery to open water. But before the summer is over the ice in the Sound breaks and drifts out to sea and the penguins need not travel so far. Much of his food they eat is later regurgitated and fed to the penguin chicks.

Often some lurking skua gull, the scavenger of the Antarctic, dives in upon an untended nest and whisks egg or chick away. Heartrending indeed is the sight of a pair of penguins bereft of egg, staring down pitifully, or believingly into an empty nest filled only with pebbles.

To the Adélies, the human intruder is a source of great curiosity and bother. While sitting on his nest he will squawk ominously and peck at any passing boot. Some, out of sorts, will stand beak to shin-bone with the trespasser and flail away comically and fearlessly with flipper-like wings.

The Adélie is a funny little fellow, a plucky little gentleman, albeit a thief. And everybody loves him. He gives character to a continent.

Q. When a guest in my home persists in telling off-colour jokes, what can I do about it?

A. If the absence of one's laughter from you is not enough to stop him, then you have a perfect right to take him aside and tell him point-blank that his kind of stories are not acceptable in your household.

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FUN ON THE BEACH — How can anyone explain this photo of Carrie Price in Miami Beach, except as an eye-pleaser?

Loyal Housewife Is A Man!

Zsigmond Bodo, a father of five, with a two-roomed flat in Budapest, has just won top prize in a national competition for the "housewife" in Hungary.

He won it for showing how he organizes his household. Both he and his wife go out to work. He is a manual labourer. He has a clerking job. Her hours are from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. and his from 8.30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Each morning, Zsigmond gets his four children ready for school, and his younger child for the kindergarten. His wife collects and brings them home. He buys all household requirements before going to work. When his wife gets home this model husband has everything prepared ready for her to cook. He also manages the week-end shopping.

Mid-day lunch is no problem for this family. The children eat at school, and father and mother at their work canteens. Zsigmond and his children keep their flat clean and tidy during the week, while Mrs. Bodo takes over at week-ends. Zsigmond also helps with bathing the children, and with washing and mending. In fact, he is the only one in this family capable of using a sewing machine, so all the mending falls to him.

"It's only fair," he says, "that I should help, as my wife also takes part in producing work outside the home."

He will love even more using his prize award — a brand new precision instrument just made for highly domesticated husbands — a sewing machine!

Those Insurance Slot Machines

Among the busiest slot machines in the land last month were the ones which dispensed flight insurance in air terminals. One authority estimated that well over 50 per cent of all air passengers took out policies and that about one in ten put their quarters into the automatic machines.

Not many trip policies are ever cashed in, even though insurance companies pay out on crashes once November may cost them $10 million in claims. For a single quarter, a traveler gets $8,250 worth of protection during his trip. For ten quarters he can buy $82,500. But if he does business at the insurance sales counter, he can take out trip policies worth about $285,000. That's the amount Julian H. Frank purchased before he and 33 others were killed in an airliner Jan. 6. Frank also held a $500,000 life-insurance policy, but neither of them will pay off if it can be proved that he caused the crash by exploding a bomb. Most policies carry a clause making them invalid if the holder kills himself within two years of the date he takes it out. The U.S. Congress may consider taking action to prohibit heirs of suicides in a sabotaged plane from collecting on any policy.

These suspicions about Frank, coupled with a second alleged air sabotage-insurance plot involving an ex-convict, also led to suggestions that the slot machines be banned. Insurance experts doubt that such a step will be taken. For one thing, banning the machines would inconvenience the many passengers who make last-minute decisions to buy insurance policies. For another, a mad would-be bomber could always buy insurance at a counter.

From NEWSWEEK

THINK IT OVER

The great thing in this world is not so much where we stand as in what direction we are headed

CONSOLATION KISS — Former middleweight champ Sugar Ray Robinson receives a kiss from his sister, Evelyn Nelson, in a dressing room following a defeat in Boston at the hands of Poul Pender.

Bought Gun – Then Stuck Up Gunsmith

As he stood on the crowded railway station platform, the smartly dressed young man suddenly became interested in a group of relatives and friends who were saying their farewells boisterously to a couple of radiantly happy newlyweds.

The lovely little bride kissed with special fondness an attractive girl in blue who had been her bridesmaid that day.

"See you when we're back from our honeymoon, Susie," the young man heard the bride say. "Thanks for everything. It was wonderful!"

The young man found himself becoming fascinated by the good looks and charm of the bridesmaid. He decided to miss his train — the next one — and follow her.

Susie moved off with the group but outside the station they separated. Some went for their cars. Susie, however, hailed a taxi and was whisked away, but the young man was not caught napping.

"Follow that cab and don't lose it whatever happens," he snapped as he darted into another taxi. "This is important. I'm a private investigator," he told the driver as the taxi sped in pursuit. "Keep on his tail."

The driver obeyed. When the girl alighted in a fashionable street the young man was right behind her.

Swiftly he drew level with her, raised his hat and noted she was already feeling in her handbag, presumably for the key to her flat — one of a big block just ahead of them.

"You are Susie, of course!" he cried. "What a coincidence that we should live in the same block of flats. I was at the wedding but you didn't notice me," he added, smoothly. "Gee, you look stunning!"

Susie was taken aback. "You are a friend of Mary——?"

"I know bride as well as bridegroom," he declared. "What a wonderful couple! One night she showed me a snapshot of you and I knew you were the only girl for me. How strange we should meet for the first time like this on the day of Mary's wedding."

He accompanied her up several flights of stairs — then he made his mistake.

"I live at No. 282," he remarked. "But unluckily I've just realized I left my coat behind at the reception and my key's in it. I shall have to go back for it later. Before I do, may I come into your flat for a cup of coffee?"

The girl's head was in a whirl. No. 282 was her number. For the first time she began to suspect that he was an impudent imposer. She made up her mind.

"Certainly," she said. "My husband will be delighted to meet you."

Susie will never know how the young man ran down the stairs as quickly as he did without falling, after leaving her without uttering another word. She's never seen him since. Oh, he's not married. But by pretending to be she had called the stranger's bluff. The amazing impudence of some people is enough to take your breath away.

Californian police reported the case of a well-dressed young man who walked into a gunsmith's shop and asked to see a revolver.

He was shown one.

"Fine," said the young man. "I shall also want some bullets to fit it." The shop assistant produced some and the customer, smiling pleasantly, loaded the gun with them, "to make quite sure," as he remarked, "that they fitted." They did.

The young man then levelled the revolver at the scared assistant, robbed the till of the day's takings, and vanished after waving good-bye, revolver in hand.

In Ireland they tell the story of the colossal nerve of two men who, wearing workmen's green aprons, walked into a court while an important case was being tried. They carried a ladder.

The judge, learning that the men were seeking permission to carry out "some important work" while the court sat, declared irritably: "Very well. But tell the men to be quick about it!"

The men hoisted the ladder and quickly took down the valuable court clock at the rear of the judge's bench. Neither they nor the clock were ever seen again.

In another court a judge chanced to announce during a long hearing that he had left his watch at home.

When he got home that night he learned from his wife that she had given his gold watch to the "messenger from the court" who had called. The impudent thief was never caught.

In Oklahoma City another cheeky thief strolled into a restaurant and calmly took several bites out of a customer's hamburger. Then he strolled out. But he was caught by the police later that day and fined $10.

Some years ago a man who escaped from a prison hospital in France wrote to the governor: "I owe you something for medical care, sir. Kindly deduct it from the $1500 the police took from me when I was arrested."

Recently a Welsh woman whose husband had been arrested visited the police station and begged the kind-hearted sergeant's permission to bring him a meal, adding that he would never eat anybody else's cooking. Permission was given.

On her way out she passed the police station kitchen and saw a pound and a half of sausages and some bacon lying on the table. Picking them up she took them home, cooked them and brought them back for her husband's dinner. Only after he had eaten them was the theft discovered.

A minister and his wife were discussing two local men.

"Yes," said the minister, "I knew them both as boys. One was a clever, handsome fellow; the other a steady, hard worker. The clever lad was left behind in the race, but the hard worker—well, he died and left $500,000 to his widow. It's a great moral."

"Yes," replied his wife, with a smile, "it is. I heard this morning that the clever one is going to marry the widow."

DANGEROUS BEAST — It all seems like an episode from a motorist's dream. Vern Baker finds the local parking machines will not accept money. They have been outlawed by Sparks, Nev., officials.

Trawler Catches A Submarine

The French fishing boat was called Mon Reve — My Dream — and her crew thought they were dreaming for a short while the other day. Suddenly, while they were fishing in a calm sea in the English Channel, their boat began to move backwards.

"Mon Dieu!" gasped the crew as the boat continued astern at a good twelve knots. Then, imagining they had caught a sea monster, they panicked and cut the net.

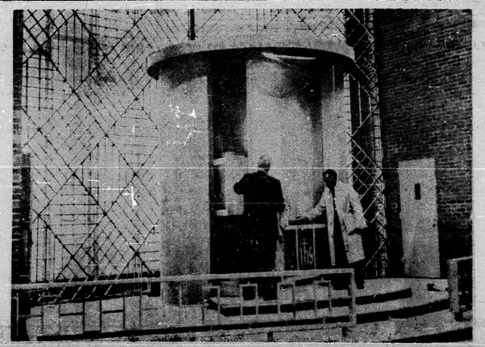
As Mon Reve came to a stop the "monster" appeared — it was a French submarine, with the fishing net draped around its conning tower.

"By Jove," said a stranger at a party, "what a long and lanky girl that is over there."

"Hush," his host whispered.

"Her father won the Irish Sweepstakes recently. She's tall and stately these days."

DRIVE WITH CARE



SOLACE — This is a glimpse of the latest in correctional institutions. The state of Ohio is just completing it. Costing 12 million dollars, it has such innovations as pastel-colored cells and this modernistic religious center. The altar revolves, revealing Catholic, Protestant or Jewish segments.

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