

"Merry Christmas To Everyone in the World

Except Men..."

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— And as for a Happy New Year, "Men don't need one," quoth ALOISE BUCKLEY HEATH

Merry Christmas to everyone in the world except men. That does sound a little harsh, doesn't it? Well, all right then: Merry Christmas to men, too, but under no circumstances A Happy New Year.
For one thing, if I said it, I wouldn't mean it, which would be insincere and just like a woman, as we all know; and for another thing, men don't need to be wished A Happy New Year. How would you keep a man from having a Happy New Year anyway? He may break his leg, of course, or lose his wife, or go bankrupt, or land in jail, but the year ahead nevertheless

can have in store no vicissitudes that will shake his serenely shining inner conviction that, all in all, he is just about perfect.

Every man is convinced that he is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, Reverent; that he is intelligent; has beautiful eyes and an extraordinary sense of humor.
Like all convictions, of course, some of these, sometimes, may be shaken. But what cannot be shaken in man is his confidence that whatever qualities he may or may not have, there is something he innately is superior to women. Indeed, not only do men "know" that they are superior to women, but so do their poor brainwashed wives — not to mention parents,

sons, and daughters who are not in their middle teens.

People started thinking along these lines, I suppose, shortly after it became apparent that it took at least two women to help a man carry a dead pterodactyl home because one woman kept dropping her end.

By the time the lever was invented, you would have thought that men could no longer feel superior to women without feeling, to the exact degree, inferior to levers, wouldn't you?
Well, you would be wrong. A man is so constituted that he can spend an entire evening bragging about his horsepower without once considering where this puts the horse.

Now here, for the first time published ever, is the absolutely definitive list of the fields in which men excel over women: athletics, arithmetic, musical composition, physical strength, singing baritone, and superiority.

Woman is of course, a much better physical specimen. She operates more efficiently, under greater stress, with fewer breakdowns, on less fuel, for longer years.

But: the average man can lift 75 pounds and the average woman can lift 62 pounds; so that makes

Man's lofty notion that, all in all, he is just about perfect cannot be shaken — or can it?



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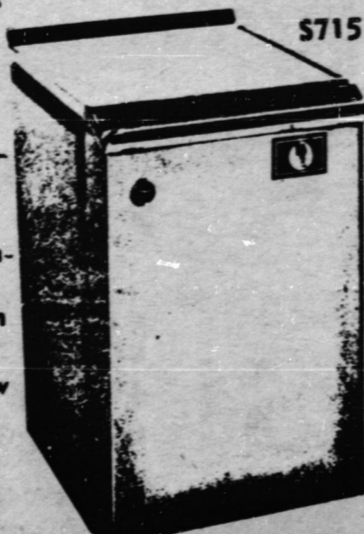
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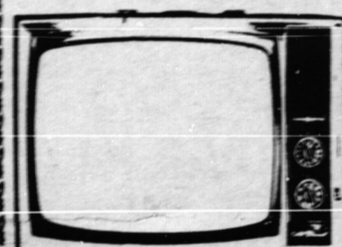
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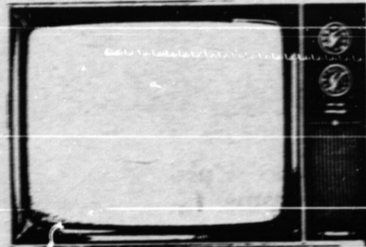
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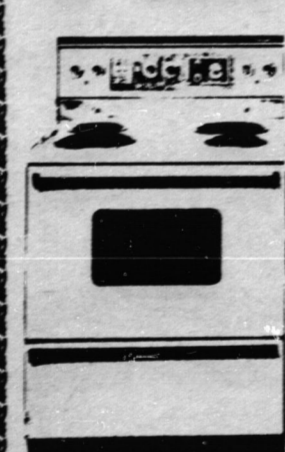
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Christmas

Continued From Page 14

ore he stops losing his temper, shouting, slamming doors, etc.

twice as many men as women have nervous breakdowns, three times as many commit suicide, four times as many have ulcers, and men commit 50 times as many unpremeditated murders.

ut you know what men do, don't you? Men cry! Women cry because women are more

emotional than men, that's why.

True, men have produced more geniuses than women, but this isn't what men believe. Men don't go around saying: "Albert Einstein is smarter than women"; they go around saying: "Men are smarter than women!"

Everybody knows that there is only one really marvelous, awesome and completely satisfying achievement, and that is to

give birth to a baby; and when small boys first realize that they can't and their sisters can, they are quite understandable consumed with jealousy.

Now, men don't think they're superior because they really believe all this nonsense. On the contrary: they think all this nonsense because they really believe they are superior — first, I suppose, because of their horsepower; and later, I am positive, because there wasn't anything much around to read for centuries and centuries, other than the Bible, of which the Epistles of St. Paul have always been men's very favorite words.

"Let a woman learn in silence, with all submission," St. Paul advised young Bishop Timothy, "for I do not allow a woman to teach or to exercise authority over man..."

Within a matter of days, without question, the men of Ephesus formulated that article of the male code of honor whose twentieth-century equivalent is: "I ain't taking no orders from no woman."

Today Ephesus; tomorrow the world!

Fifteen hundred years later, Queen Elizabeth, who was worth any 14 of the men she was addressing — and who knew it, what's more — felt she had to assure her troops that "I know I have the body of a weak and feeble woman, but I have the heart and stomach of a king, and of a king of England, too..." before she could proceed to the point, which was I want you men to get out there and fight.

But, getting back to St. Paul: Women ought to keep their heads covered and men ought not, said he, writing to the Corinthians, because "a man is the image and glory of God... man was not created for woman, but woman for man..."

The men of Corinth — and of any other period or place you can think of — undoubtedly gave St. Paul a standing ovation before he

had finished his first sentence and forthwith hastened out to pass his wisdom on to the moomakers of the world.

Poet Alfred Lord Tennyson is commonly considered to have given definitive expression to St. Paul's thesis:

"Man for the field and woman for the hearth," airily wrote the parson's deskbound son; "Man for the sword and for the needle she," proclaimed the ex-soldier who never met an enemy; "Man with the head and woman with the heart," declared the man who never could remember where he had lost his money and his manuscript; "Man to command, woman to obey..."

Today men who have never heard of either Tennyson or St. Paul paraphrase them with: "A man's gotta wear the pants of the family..."

"Younger widows" (by which he meant any woman not under the direct supervision of a man), St. Paul warned, "being idle, learn to go about from house to house and are not only idle, but gossypers as well..." Men haven't stopped talking about how Women Talk Too Much ever since. And let us not forget the good saint's



St. Paul, whose Epistles set forth some favorite words of men...

contributions to the marriage ceremony:

"Let women be subject to their husbands... because the husband is the head of the wife..." St. Paul briskly admonishes the bride. "Husbands, love your wives... He that loveth his wife, loveth himself, for no man ever hateth his own

flesh, but nourished it and cherished it... let everyone of you... love his wife as himself..."

Once this strongest of male motivations — "Be good to yourself" — has been dangled as an inducement to husbandly love, the very least the bride can do, obviously, is to get lovable:

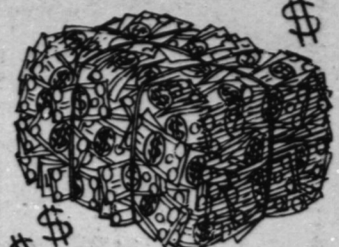
"... May she be pleasing to her husband like Rachel; prudent like Rebecca; long-lived and faithful like Sara... may she fly all unlawful addresses... fortify her weakness by strong discipline... be respected for her seriousness... venerated for her modesty... fruitful in offspring. May her life be pure and blameless... and may they both see their children's children until unto the third and fourth generation and come at last to a happy old age."

You noticed when "she" turned into "they," didn't you? Just too late for the injunction and just in time for the reward which the old fool has earned, presumably, by managing to love that paragon of virtue, his wife.

Well, if a virtuous woman is a crown to her husband, it's easy to see why there never has been, nor will be,

Year, all you virtuous women. I shall not ask you to be my valentine, St. Paul.

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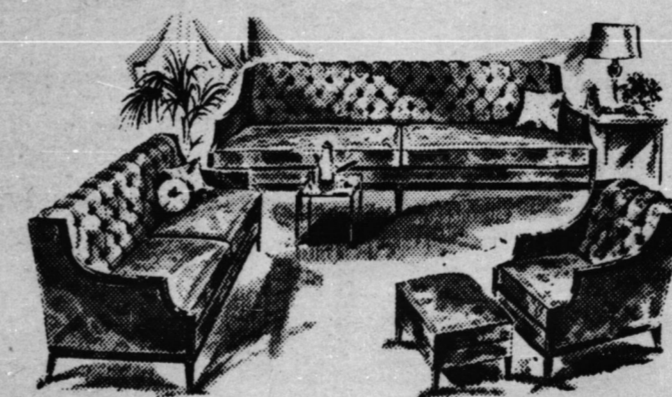
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