

# M'LISS DISCUSSES WOMAN BOSS AND HER UNPOPULARITY

## The Basic Reason for Employes' Dislike of the Feminine Executive May After Analysis Prove to Be a Primitive One

"The greatest handicap that a girl can have on entering the business world is to have a woman boss!"

Harsh words, these. They emanated from the older of two women lunching opposite me. She was a capable-appearing, tailor-made person in whose manner there was nothing of the clinging vine. Obviously, she had worked hard for her niche and was determined and equipped to hold it against all comers.

The young girl whom she addressed was patently a newcomer to the commercial marts, and it didn't take more than a casual glance to reveal the fact that her first experiences up to date had not been very happy ones. The lugubrious way in which she rolled her lettuce would have testified to that, even if her lachrymose expression hadn't.

I couldn't hear the rest of their conversation, although I should like to have known the arguments the older woman used to drive home her assertion regarding feminine executives. But such disjointed fragments of the conversation as these floated over to me:

"—anything good, she grabs the credit."

"She comes in at 10 herself and expects me to be there at 8."

"Don't let her get anything on you"—this from the senior woman.

Later, in an endeavor to find out if "woman bosses" were really anathema to girls under them, I talked to several women who are the subjects of a petticoated monarch.

"Yes," said one sane-minded woman, judicially, "I think it's quite true, most women that I know would rather work for a man than for a woman. I don't say it's entirely the woman boss' fault. I think it may be the fault of the sex in general."

"Women are not as good soldiers as men, though it might be possible to find a good woman general. If a man comes to me and in harsh, unyielding tones says, 'Miss Blank do so-and-so,' I don't resent it nearly so much as if I had to take the same order from a woman."

"I suppose it's the old primitive feeling that a man has the right to boss. But whatever the reason is, I'd count it a disadvantage rather than a blessing to have a woman boss."

"Commercial or professional jealousy," was the retort made by the second woman I queried, "is the big reason why women don't agree when they're battling shoulder to shoulder for success."

"Women are petty. They don't stop to give a helping hand along the way as a man would do. They are ungenerous and self-seeking. They don't seem to realize that there's always room at the top for one more, and that, ultimately, an eminent position is maintained by good work, and good work alone. They fear competition as they would the plague, instead of courting it for the healthiness it engenders. I've got one and she tries her best to be broad-minded. She can't. It's agin' the nature of the beast."

I publish these opinions for what they are worth, but I don't agree with them. Generosity of spirit, it seems to me, and a recognition of the principles of fair play are a matter of the individual temperament and character, not of sex. As many mean and petty men walk the earth, I do believe, as women. Do you agree with me?

### Going, Going Gone

Some people considered it a bit indelicate for Julia Marlowe to put her fleshings up at auction; but certainly the masculine individual who proudly bore them off for the insignificant sum of one dollar was guilty of a greater breach of taste.

### Letters to the Editor of the Woman's Page

Address all communications to M'Liss, care of the Evening Ledger. Write on one side of the paper only.

Dear M'Liss—I read and appreciated your article in the EVENING LEDGER the other evening with reference to "keeping company" and "dates." Now, will you kindly give these "company-keeping" girls a word of advice regarding their favorite expression, "boy friend"?

I am glad to have the opportunity to take a "whack" at the "boy friend." May he die an untimely death together with his brother and cousin the "gentleman friend" and the "steady."

I don't know how he ever came into existence, but I suspect he was born as the result of feminine cautiousness in speaking of their masculine acquaintances. For instance, if one woman says to another, "Jack Tromley took me to the theatre last night"; the second woman, so the first argues, might be tempted to subtly seek out this individual with the theatre-taking tendencies.

It cannot be denied that he would be an acquisition to any one's social circle. But Woman Number One prefers that such propensities be concentrated rather than distributed. Therefore she says: "I went to the theatre with my 'boy friend' or 'gentleman friend.'"

It is an atrocious expression. "Friend" is sufficient. "Mr. Blank" is more elegant.

Dear M'Liss—Please tell me if it is correct for a woman to ask a man to call if he has not expressed a desire to do so.

Why not? Men are shy creatures and have to be helped along, though, of course, subtlety is not to be scorned on occasions like these.

I don't believe I should ask a man to call if I felt that he was antagonistic to me. I shouldn't want him then. But if he seems interesting and interested despite his diffidence, I can't see where there'd be any loss of self-respect on the part of the woman who invited him to visit her.

In truth, he might be waiting for that very thing. Perhaps he likes to play bridge or chess, or tiddledywinks. Ask him. If his eye glistens with interest, drive home the direct invitation. If he receives your remark languidly, don't bother with him.

Dear M'Liss—As you say, hedging is a characteristic of a diplomatic man. Therefore, as to your question as to which is more to be desired in a woman—beauty or brains—the answer is, correctly, both.

Both, I repeat, in a curious mixture.

A sufficient amount of brains to enable her to at least give an appearance of keen and sympathetic interest when one arrives in the evening and devotes most valuable time to rehearsing his wonderful achievements of the day.

A sufficient amount of beauty—nay, more than a sufficient amount—no one ever heard a man seriously accuse a girl of being too good looking when he was in no danger of being ousted from an inside position—to enable her to present an appealing picture as she looks up at him, and, by her very attitude, impress him with the fact that there is no man capable of doing the work or getting the results than he alone can do.

Does this not require brains as well as beauty?

Certainly, from personal experience it has proven to be the case time after time that a girl who is good looking, but without gray matter, simply can't appear sympathetic, so much so that one erects monstrous and, needless to say, foolish air castles for no apparent reason than this delightful attitude.

We like beauty.

We admire brains.

But we lose all sense of perspective at a combination of the two.

AMOR OMNIA VINCIT.

Dear M'Liss—You ask which is more to be desired in a woman—beauty or brains? I have no hesitation whatever in answering—brains. The woman whose sole asset is beauty will, no doubt, be courted and admired by the man of refinement; but it is the woman with brains he will marry. Such a man expects his wife to be intelligent and interesting. He expects her to be able to discuss with him, and with his friends, the ordinary topics with which a woman of education and refinement is, or should be, familiar and to understand, and, in the main, to appreciate his views on each of these.

A woman with beauty and no brains is simply an animated picture, or doll, and however beautiful to the eye can never appeal to the heart.

A BACHELOR.

## SEEN IN THE SHOPS



A SMART AFTERNOON FROCK

THE dress which is shown in today's illustration is particularly suited to the figure of the flapper or the small, slight woman, for its lines are straight and simple in the extreme. The costume comes in white or navy blue French serge. The trimming consists of pipings of corn-colored satin on the collar, cuffs and simulated button holes. The sleeves are of Georgette to match the frock. The skirt is full, with a smart belt and sash effect at the front, ending in tassels of corn and navy silk. The bottom of the skirt flares widely, being laid in box-plaits about the waistline. The price is \$22.50.

The hat shows a rather new interpretation of the ordinary sailor model. The brim has ruffled, grosgrain ribbon about it, notched. The top of the hat is covered with taffeta. In black or color the price is \$15.

The name of the shop where these articles may be purchased will be supplied by the Editor of the Woman's Page, EVENING LEDGER, 626 Chestnut street. The request must be accompanied by a stamped self-addressed envelope and must mention the date on which the article appeared.

### Fashions and Fads

The pointed overdressery gives opportunity to remodel last year's evening frock. Make the overdress of tulle in color to match the body of the dress and drape these over white tulle.

If you wish to wear your new gown for six months and have it in fashion, be careful not to fashion it with the present exaggerated full skirt and nipped-in waist, for fashion whispers a change.

## Marion Harland's Corner

### To Cheer Sanitarium Patients

I AM coming to you again. As I am in a sanitarium. I am lonely at times and should like to know if any of the readers of the Corner would send me some short plays, as we could study up and give them to other patients to cheer them. I write to thank the Corner for its kindness in sending the banners. Our cottage looks fine. We could use more if any one has any to spare.

"MIS. L. A."

An will be seen, the application is from the resident of a sanitarium, to the inmates of which we have had the privilege of ministering in the past. It has been for pleasure to brighten somewhat the room and daily life of the member who appeals to us now. I need not emphasize her petition. She is grateful for the rays of light the Corner has shed into the gray obscurity of daily existence in the "home," we would fain make yet more worthy of the dear and holy name. Write for her address and add your quota to the beautiful work.

### Children Want Reading Matter

"Has some kind friend old copies of young people's magazines which he or she would be willing to pass on to a family of eight children? The father is dead, so they are supported entirely by charity. It would please them much to be so favored. They love reading above all things, and reading is the only thing that keeps the 15-year-old boy from the streets."

"J. W."

Any old or new numbers of young people's magazines will be acceptable in a family that loves reading above all things else. It is an innocent enjoyment that keeps the 15-year-old lad off the streets at night. And young people must be entertained.

### Would Welcome Organ Music

"I read in the Corner that K. H. P. offers organ music. I should esteem it a signal favor if I could share in the disposition of this donation. I love music with all my heart and I can buy but little for myself. Organ music would be especially welcome. I can make excellent use of it."

JOSIE L.

If I were not obliged to tell you that the collection of organ music offered by our generous member was given away before we had your letter you would have heard from us by mail. As the matter stands we crave a supply for your use. Will those who sympathize in this woman's love for her favorite instrument overhaul portfolios and shelves in search of treasures they can spare for her?

### Recitations of All Kinds

"As one elocutionist was fortunate in securing recitations through the Corner, I thought I would try my luck. I am anxious to get recitations of all kinds and would gladly pay postage."

SUSAN I.

"Recitations of all kinds" grants generous leeway for our junior members of like tastes. Instead of throwing away stray recitations you have used once and again, copy them neatly and send to us for the address of Susan I. You will give pleasure at slight cost of time and thought, and a 2-cent stamp will do the rest.

### Has No Girl Chum

"I am a young stenographer, living with my parents, and should like to make the acquaintance of a girl about 20 years of age, of good, respectable character. I have no girl chum. I thank you in advance for any help you may be able to render me."

MABEL M.

We have introduced divers "chums" to one another, and we should like to find one for you. With this end in view we hold your address. Let us hear from you again when the correspondence is an accomplished fact, and may that be soon!

### Women Do the Work

Miss Lena Ashwell, the well-known London actress and theatre manager, employs a woman stage manager, electrician and limelight operator.

## THE MEDULLA OBLONGATA, SEAT OF LIFE AND ACTION

By WILLIAM BRADY, M. D.

CALL it just the medulla and never mind its shape. It is the upper enlarged part of the spinal cord, the bulb, about an inch long, and lies upon the base of the skull just within the opening where the spinal cord enters.

In the medulla are the nerve centres which control the most vital functions—the centres of respiration, swallowing, breathing, the vasomotor centre, centres governing heart action, the sneezing centre, the coughing centre, the centre governing the act of vomiting and others.

In this little medulla of man, a structure you could inclose in a nutshell, life resides. Other parts of the brain are essential for conscious effort; the spinal cord is essential for carrying impulses to and from the brain and the limbs, but life itself requires only an intact medulla.

The breathing centre has been supposed to be the vital point. When it is destroyed the animal feels no desire to breathe. But it is incorrect to say that death occurs simultaneously with the cessation of breathing. Any normal person can hold his breath 40 seconds, and by first breathing just a trifle more deeply for two minutes, he can easily hold his breath for two minutes. One student held his breath eight minutes, another ten minutes, by inhaling some oxygen just before the test. Probably the heart-attack approach to instantaneous death is a false electric shock through the medulla and brain. Even then the heart may continue to beat feebly for a time. A person drowned may be to all appearances dead—no heart beat, no breathing—and yet be resuscitated if the bystander knows how to perform Shaeffer's method of artificial respiration, which every child can learn in a few moments. Death is

a relative term. No one can say really when life ends excepting in our arbitrary fashion of defining death by the cessation of heart-beat and breathing.

In the medulla life resides. And in one little point the very centre of life is situated. What do we find when we scrutinize this area under the microscope? We find cells, protoplasm. Beyond that we can never hope to see with these scaly eyes of ours. Of course, there is something beyond that. It is what various people call Allah, The Great Spirit, God.

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

#### Thinning the Blood

I am informed that one part cream of tartar and two parts epsom salts dissolved in 20 parts of water, (teaspoonful on rising and at bedtime in a little cold water, is good to thin the blood. Is it true?

Answer—It would tend rather to make the blood more concentrated. It would tend to lower blood-pressure—which, we fancy, is what people mostly mean when they think they have too much blood.

#### Pain and Cancer

Is pain the first symptom of internal cancer?

Answer—Not always. Cancer may be far advanced before pain is noticed, and it may be painless throughout.

#### Consolation

When in disgrace with fortune and men's eyes,

I all alone beweep my outcast state,

And trouble deaf heaven with my bootless cries,

And look upon myself and curse my fate,

Yet in these thoughts myself almost despising,

Happy I think on Thee—and then my state,

Like to the lark at break of day arising

From sullen earth, sings hymns at heaven's gate.

For thy sweet love remembered, such wealth brings,

That then their scorn to change my state with kings.

—Shakespeare.

### THE CHEERFUL CHERUB

I hear the rush of busy folks,  
I hear the whiz of passing years.  
Let other people make the noise—  
I'll just be one who sits and hears.



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## MILLIE AND HER MILLIONS

BY THE WAY, MONTY, I BOUGHT A SPLENDID BOOK ON PHYSICAL CULTURE AND HYGIENE TODAY.

DID YOU, ANGEL? HAS IT MADE YOU FEEL ANY BETTER?

AMONGST OTHER THINGS, IT SAYS WE ALL EAT TOO MUCH.

RUBBISH! ALL I HAD FOR BREAKFAST WAS FRUIT AND CEREAL AND TWO POACHED EGGS AND COFFEE.

NEVER THELESS, MONTY, I BELIEVE WE OUGHT TO TRY DIETING FOR AWHILE.

HANG IT, ANGEL, I'D RATHER DIE THAN DIET.

WHAT THE DEUCE IS THIS, MILLIE?

BREAD AND MILK, OLD BOY I'VE DECIDED TO GO BY WHAT THE BOOK SAYS.

KEEP YOUR EYE OPEN, ROBERT, I WOULDN'T LET MRS. VAN OODLES CATCH ME FOR ANYTHING.

(Copyright, 1915.)

STARVATION IS APT TO MAKE MEN DESPERATE