

And So They Were Married

By HAZEL DEYO BATCHELOR
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"HAVE you told Jane all this?" Ruth asked evenly.
"No," Bob replied almost miserably. "I couldn't."
"What has happened then?"

"O, just bickerings and constant faultfinding and making up again, but I always know when we make up that it isn't for good, for something is sure to happen."
Ruth had a sudden inspiration. Bob had intended to ask her advice about this when he had come there this afternoon. She could see that. She wished suddenly that Helen were here to help her. Helen was so efficient, she would know just what to say. Why was it that every one unloved trouble on Scott and herself? It seemed that she, Ruth, had been settling marital troubles off and on the whole of their married life. Was it because they had something that other people hadn't? Was it because other people sensed this and envied them? A warm glow of feeling surged up over Ruth. If that were true it would help so much in tiding over her blue spells when everything seemed to go wrong, her temperamental spells when the least thing that Scott said or did she misconstrued and allowed it to make her unhappy. If she could be instrumental in helping this marriage of Jane's she would be so proud and happy.

"If you haven't had a talk with Jane," said Ruth finally after what had apparently been a long period of thought, "you should do it very soon."
Bob looked aghast. "What, talk to her about things like that? Why I couldn't, I couldn't hurt her like that."
"You'd hurt her a great deal worse if you ceased to love her Bob, and that's what will happen if things go on like this."

Bob considered this remark, his eyes fixed on the wailing blue curtains and the trailing green of a flower pot in the window.
"Do you know," he said abruptly, "that after all a remark like that is true. If outsiders heard that a man could cease to love a woman because she is unlovely, they would think it a small reason. But it isn't a small reason, it's as deadly as any big reason. A man can't dream about a woman who isn't dainty, he can't visualize her as he wants to. It terrifies me when I think of it."

Ruth thought what a dear boy he was as he sat there talking out his heart to her, she felt suddenly that if she had Jane there she would give her a good slaking. Jane was the most utterly provoking mortal in the world with the least sense of responsibility.
When Bob left that day, he had promised to have a talk with Jane, a good plain talk about ugly facts of life. He had also promised to see that his mother did not interfere with Jane and that he would be careful about apparently siding with his mother against his wife.

"Keep matters between yourselves," Ruth had warned him, "and let me know how things come out."
That night Scott brought home a blue Persian kitten. He carried it carefully in a basket four times as big as the baby cat and made Ruth guess what it was. Finally when he lifted it out and put it into Ruth's arms, and she had cuddled it a while, and when they had both stood over it while it lapped up some milk, Ruth asked Scott suddenly how he happened to think of getting a kitten.

"Don't you like it?"
"O, yes," said Ruth catching it up and resting her cheek against its velvety fur. "I love it, but I never would have thought of getting one. How did you happen to?"
"I thought it would be great fun to have it running around the house," was Scott's reply. Ruth thought of this afterward and thought of it in various ways. It struck a chord in her that she remembered having felt some time before, but she could not remember just what it was. She tried her brain in an effort to recall it but she could not. All evening it kept occurring to her at different times while she and Scott were at the theatre, but vaguely, so that she could not connect it with any thing.

When they reached home and the kitten leaped to meet them with absurdly funny bounds, it struck Ruth again. It was annoying the way it kept coming back to her again and again.
It was after they had gone to bed and Ruth had dropped into a slight doze that she woke suddenly, remembering. It was when she had held Jane's baby, Joy, tightly in her arms.

(Tomorrow, Gene returns.)

Little Fashion Hints

- Slip-on gloves are in favor.
- Jet is good for another season.
- Velvets are striped and plaided.
- Veils are not especially in favor.
- Dead leaf is a new color in lace.

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The Woman's Exchange

Boys' Books Volunteered

To the Editor of Woman's Page:
Dear Madam—I have a number of interesting books for boys, both travel in story form, and some boys' fiction, which I will be glad to give to some who would enjoy them, preferably a "shut-in," or one who could not obtain them otherwise. The books are especially suited to boys of from ten to sixteen years of age.
I would appreciate your help in finding such a boy.
Could I request that the books be called for?
A FRIEND.

From Mrs. R. H.
To the Editor of Woman's Page:
Dear Madam—Your column is wonderful. I have received a dear little fox-terrier, just what I wanted from Mrs. D. I am returning rest of letters and accept sincere thanks from
MRS. R. H.

I'm so glad you found a nice pet, Mrs. H. I am going to buy some home for the other dogs through the column. So will the owners please hold on to them?

Kittens Want Home

To the Editor of Woman's Page:
Dear Madam—I am coming to ask your help again, for you are so good and kind to these poor helpless cats and thought maybe you may know of some one who may want a kitten. Now I have two small ones that I picked up in a lot, after they lay there for three days. Another one of them was left so I took them home as I have a cat that has a kitten, so they could nurse on her until they were old enough to eat. Now they can eat and are so cute; they are both maltese and very pretty so if you know of any one who would take these I would be very thankful to you as I can't put them out. I forgot to tell you I also have one of those other ones I first wrote you about. The people put it out two weeks ago and

it cried in our back yard so much so I took it in as I could not see it suffer. Now it is nice and fat and I would like to find a home for this one also.
Please let me know at once as I am going away for a couple of weeks; I will leave next Wednesday. They are all maltese cats, two small ones and one a little larger and all very clean. I would not like to give them where they are used for toys for children.
MRS. A. S.

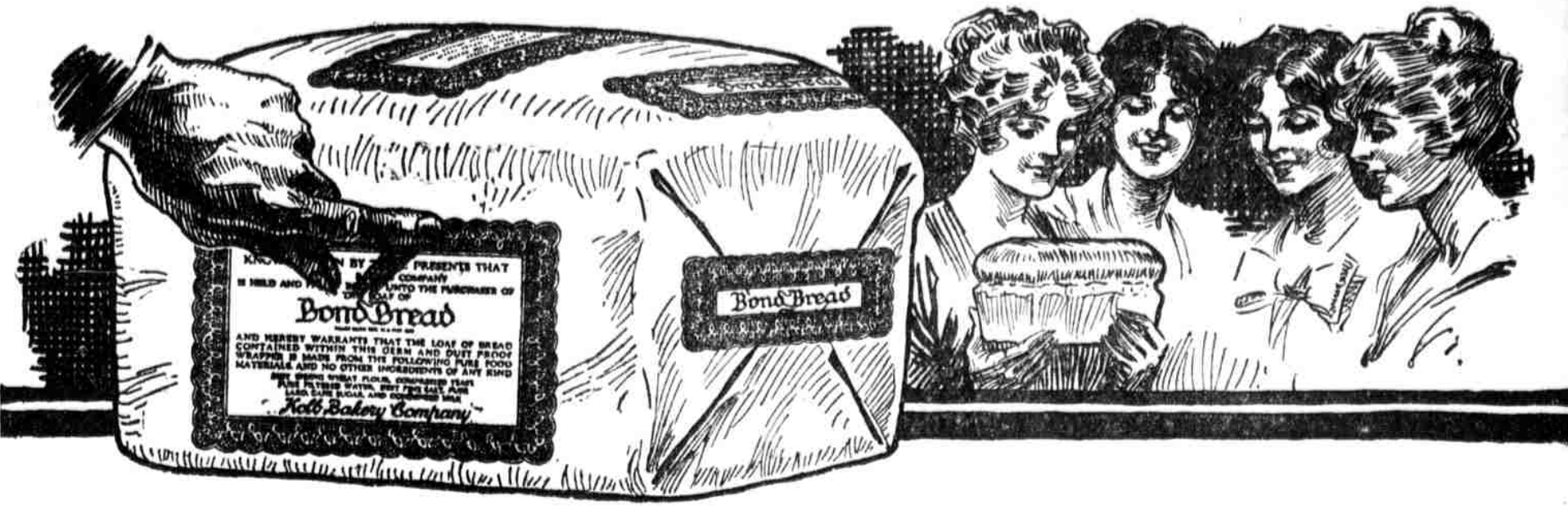
Poor little kittens! Surely some of our readers will want them. Letters for Mrs. A. S. will be forwarded.

The Question Corner

- Today's Inquiries
1. Suggest a game for a musical party.
 2. Name the colors to be in high vogue this winter.
 3. What is a Louis XV heel?
 4. What is the cause of gray hair?
 5. How can the ironing board be fixed to always stand in readiness for pressing embroidered work?
 6. What is a cabochon?

Yesterday's Answers

1. The "pig book" which makes a jolly feature for any party is a perfectly blank book in which each guest is blindfolded and asked to draw a pig. His name and the date must be signed and oftentimes a humorous ad line is added.
2. Pictures can be hung with a broom handle that has a notch cut out of the top of it.
3. The tuftings in upholstered furniture can be cleaned with the point of a blunt skewer covered with cotton and a little piece of silk. After treating in this way go quickly all over with a flannel wrung quite dry from hot water and then wipe quickly with a cloth wet in alcohol.
4. Yellow tones in wall paper are warming to a room with a northern light.
5. Braided trimming for the waist-line of the new fall dress can be made at home from pieces of the material cut on the bias, made into tubes and braided.
6. Placing several sheets of newspaper under the silcloth on the kitchen table will make it last longer.



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