

# Kathleen Norris Says:

One Way to Lose Your Man

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"Paul got into the habit of stopping in at Lisa McBreen's after office hours. Lisa supplied the sandwiches, he the liquid refreshment. They sat and chatted for a half hour. It was restful."

By KATHLEEN NORRIS

"TACT" is a small word, and to many good wives, it seems a small thing. But "atom" is a small word, too. Yet we've all learned, in the last tremendous years, that an atom can smash a great city to pieces in three minutes flat, and change the history of the world.

Tact has changed the married history of thousands of women—or rather, the lack of tact has. It changed Emily Rogers' life, and she never knew it, and doesn't know it to this day. And I doubt if Paul Rogers, her husband, realizes it, either. . . . realizes that if Emily had had any tact at all, they'd still be together, a happily married man and wife.

The Rogers had been married 11 years and their boy was five years old when the break came. Paul met Lisa McBreen. Lisa was three years older than Paul, widowed, not nearly as pretty as Emily, not living in a charming eight-room house as Emily was. No, Lisa was close to 40, and she had a two-room apartment. But she had tact.

When Paul went home to Emily he was often tired and depressed. Emily never saw it. Often she wasn't there when he got home; always a discouraging thing for a husband. Paul used his latch key and lighted the hall lights and waited for her. When she did come in, it was to say that she was dead tired; to ask if that was his new suit, it looked terrible; to say that Bill was taking Marion with him to New York, to praise enthusiastically the headmaster of Junior's school—a man and a school Paul didn't like—and to observe that she would go to the Billings affair if she thought she could afford a couple of chairs for the rummage room, but that as she couldn't she would stay home. And from the top of the stairs she might call, "Did you telephone Stella?" and if Paul hadn't, Emily would go into lamentations that lasted well through the dinner hour. A well-cooked, nicely-served dinner, but it would taste like ashes to Paul.

Lisa was soothing. So Paul got into the habit of stopping in at Lisa McBreen's after office hours; he supplied the liquid refreshment, Lisa supplied the sandwiches, they sat and chatted for perhaps half an hour. It was restful. Lisa was affectionate, responsive, soothing. She didn't make a superman of Paul, but she liked him. After a while he began telephoning her, and he began stopping in; he was delayed downtown, he had to go up to Stockton for a business dinner.

Emily suffered. She reminded her friends that she had always been a faithful wife to Paul, done her own work since the depression struck, given him a son, given him "the best years of her life." She scorned Lisa, of course. What Paul could see in that middle-aged woman, who had a daughter married, and who was plain, dressed so badly, Emily simply couldn't understand. Her friends sympathized with her, but that didn't keep them in due time from liking the new Mrs. Rogers.

But, of course, the situation isn't entirely satisfactory to anyone. Emily's young son is miserably di-



Postpone the bad news. . . .

## KINDNESS AND CONSIDERATION

Partners in marriage must be kind, sympathetic and considerate to each other, or they are bound for trouble. Doing this takes intelligence and restraint, but it is not so difficult. Many poor and ignorant people are quite successful at getting along smoothly. On the other hand, many people of wealth and culture are quite lacking in this essential quality of tact.

Miss Norris tells today of a man who got so tired of his nagging, complaining wife that he turned to another woman for comfort. This other woman was a widow, older than he and plain and unattractive compared to his wife, but she gave him the solace he needed.

Eventually he was divorced. He immediately married the plain widow, much to everyone's surprise. His former wife reminds her friends that she had always been faithful and gave him "the best years of her life." She doesn't realize that she failed in one important particular—being tactful.

vided between loyalties. His mother is patiently complaining, and injured, his father boantly happy and assured; he is ill at ease with both. And Paul has two households to support, now, which means money stringency, besides the fact that old friends are continually put in the uncomfortable position of choosing which family to ask to weddings and parties.

Kindly Interest, Sympathy. Tact would have saved this situation, as it could save a thousand more divorces this year. Tact does not mean flattery or fawning or lying. It doesn't mean acting a part. It does mean extending to your partner in life just that kindly interest, that sympathy that you would give to a perfectly strange man, met casually at a luncheon or cocktail party.

It does mean that if your husband is worrying about money or bills you don't fret him with ambitious schemes for doing over the whole lower floor. It does mean that if he says his head aches you don't instantly respond, that if he and Jim Stewart wouldn't sit up all night talking business his head wouldn't ache. It means that you refrain from telling him bad news, or humiliating news, or worrying news, until he has his slippers on; until his good hot soup is inside him; until he is somewhat fortified after what was perhaps a long and lonely day. And when you do tell it, it means that you don't interlard it with "I told you-so's" and "why don't the Stewarts ever get into these jams?"

Yes, tact sounds a small thing. But it isn't. It is based in something far deeper than just the gift of saying pleasant things and suppressing unpleasant things, of looking on the happier side of life. For tact is tenderness, tact is sympathy and love. Men leave beautiful women and rich women and smart women and successful women. But women with tact hold their men right through to the golden wedding and beyond.

**Flu Vaccine Limited**  
Influenza vaccine should be given in November in the northern areas, or immediately after the first occurrence of the disease, according to the New York state department of health. Duration of the immunity given by the vaccine is short, generally from about four months to a year. The common cold and its complications, however, are not prevented by the use of influenza vaccines, nor is protection afforded against bacterial infections such as streptococcal sore throat.

# LOOK AND LEARN

By A. C. GORDON

1. By what foreign nation was the United States first recognized as an independent republic?
2. Approximately how many patents does the telephone of today represent?
3. Where did the first legislative body in America assemble?
4. Of which famous address are these the last words: "Shall not perish from the earth?"
5. Why do some animals retract their ears when angry?
6. Which is the only river in the world to rise in the vicinity of the equator and flow into the temperate zone?
7. Who was the first woman ever to be elected to congress?
8. During what war did the battles of El Caney and San Juan Hill occur?
9. Does Texas extend further south than Florida?
10. Which is the oldest music wind instrument?
11. What city in the U. S. had a population of ten thousand on the day it was settled?
12. What was the American poet who was killed in action during the first World War?
13. How many times does the Lord's Prayer occur in the Bible and where?
14. Which is the largest inlet on a U. S. coast?
15. What great explorer was treacherously killed by a native Hawaiian?
16. Upon what certain mountain in eastern United States is the sun said to shine first?
17. What three families have each twice been represented in the White House?
18. Upon whose discoveries were the English claims to North America based?
19. What animal is able to grow a new tail?
20. Who was the original "Waltz King"?

### Answers

1. France, in 1778.
2. Approximately 8,000 patents.
3. At Jamestown, Va., in 1619.
4. Lincoln's Gettysburg address.
5. All animals that fight with their teeth on the ends.
6. The Nile.
7. Jeanette Rankin of Montana.
8. Spanish-American War.
9. No; Cape Sable, Fla., is the southernmost point.
10. The flute.
11. Oklahoma City, which was opened for settlement on April 22, 1889, and by nightfall had a population of 10,000 under tents.
12. Joyce Kilmer, author of the poem "Trees."
13. Twice, in Mass., 4 and Luke.
14. Chesapeake Bay.
15. Capt. James Cook.
16. Mrs. Katsuhin, Maine, which is the highest point in the easternmost coast.
17. Adams, Harrison, Roosevelt.
18. John Cabot's.
19. The lizard.
20. Johann Strauss, II.

### First Parachute

The first successful use of a parachute in a descent from a moving aeroplane was made by a Captain Berry in 1912 in St. Louis, Mo., according to the Encyclopaedia Britannica. Some use was made of parachutes by captive balloon observers during World War I but aviators in that war did not use them until the last few weeks of the fighting.

### Rare Cactus

Organ pipe cactus, which grows in such profusion south of Ajo, Ariz., that the stand has been set aside as a national monument, is so named because its branches resemble the pipes of the pipe organ. It grows as high as 20 feet tall and is one of the uncommon species of the cactus family.

### More Rail Efficiency

Railroads used 118 pounds of coal to move 1,000 tons of freight and equipment one mile in 1945, a saving of 28 per cent compared with 1921 when 162 pounds were required to perform the same service.

### Producing Turpentine

Gum turpentine, or gum spirits, is obtained in this country from the long leaf pine forests of the southern states. The trees are methodically slashed with a long knife and the oleo-resin from the wounds is collected in half gallon to gallon cups. The crude gum thus obtained is likely to include twigs, bits of bark, and dirt. It is dumped into barrets and the barrets are hauled to a large copper still. Water is added to the oleo-resin in the still and then the still is heated on a wood fire. The turpentine is distilled off together with the steam formed from the water present. Having risen in the still, pine wood also is utilized, and the turpentine is steam distilled from the wood which has been ground into small pieces accessible to the steam. Steam distilled turpentine is used in paint and varnish products in the same way and for the same purposes as the gum spirits.

### Home-made Toys

Parents can construct simple educational toys that will appeal to the imagination of a preschool youngster, according to extension specialists. A child may learn colors from a tri-color can filled with clothespins of the same colors. The child is taught to match the color of the clothespin to the color on the edge of the can. Building blocks can be cut out in many shapes and stored in a box with a diagram in the bottom showing the child just where to replace his blocks when he is through playing. Most complicated toy is a wooden train constructed from such articles as a banister rail for the top of the engine, a metal screw cap for a headlight, an empty spool for a smokestack and a bell from an old hot water bottle stopper.

### Rework Buttonholes

Rework raveled or weak buttonholes with a buttonhole stitch. Buttons should be sewed on with a strong thread. It isn't easy to match buttons on readymade garments, so fasten them on securely as a precautionary measure.



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