

The Marriage Problem

By ERNEST POOLE
Author of "The Harbor," "His Family," etc.

In Future We Will Use Our Emotions Just as Scientists Use the Forces of Life

"MARRIAGE a hundred years from now? There won't be any," said a man I know. "Life will be one long succession of love affairs. And God help the men!"

"The men?" I asked, with a shiver for my poor little great-grandson, unborn.

"Yes, the men," he answered. "They're the ones who will suffer most. For most men just naturally love their homes. After a hard day's work at the office, they like to come home and find some peace and quiet there. They like to find the same old wife.

"A lot of lies have been told about men. Because most of them have a fling when they're young, they have been put down as philanderers—while the wife has always been described as the Great Monogamist. And that," he said bitterly, "is all bunk. She's a lover of her home all right—yes, and of her children, too. But she takes to romance as a duck to water.

"The modern woman would be much better content with a home through which a string of husbands passed, each one leaving a child or two, and alimony, behind him. In the past she couldn't have it that way; laws and customs held her down. But she's rapidly getting rid of them now. And when she does, God help the men!"

"That man," said a woman, to whom I had repeated this speech, "sounds to me exactly as if he were paying alimony right now. Nine women out of ten," she declared, "will always be what we've always been—monogamists."

But as I look about me, I am not so sure of that. Our girls have grown independent of late. They are an exploring, inquisitive lot, and they're from Missouri. They want to be sure. They know that once they have children they're anchored pretty well for life.

So I shouldn't wonder if more and more refused to have any children until they had tried, by a marriage or two, to make sure they had found the husband with whom they wished to settle down.

And even then will they stick to their homes? Many will, I think—but others, no.

And by a hundred years from now most people, in the cities at least, may live in large apartment hotels, with great nurseries on the top floors.

What is the average mother and wife going to do with all her time? She will have a lot of it, in those days, for by a century from now life will be longer. The chances are that she'll live to be a hundred or more, and ways will be found to prolong her youth.

The Golden Wedding day will then be but a half-way point in marriage. And the faithful wife is going to see an awful lot of that husband of hers—if she cares to. Will she care?

"In the world of emotions," said a psychiatrist I know, "our exploring has just begun. And since the center of all emotions is this passion that people call love, our explorations are bound to work some astounding changes in the whole marriage relation," he said.

"Most people who get married now know so little about love that the whole relation is soon a matter of routine. In the future it will not be so. We are going to know and use our emotions just as our chemists and engineers use the external forces of life."

I shivered a bit, for it seemed to me that in those new laboratory homes a good many high-power young women I know would rather be likely to blow up. And back came my anxiety for that poor little great-grandson of mine.

But suddenly I realized that I had quite overlooked the most important point of all. The young wife of a hundred years from now, in two cases out of three, will probably fill her spare time with a job.

Already she is invading the businesses, professions and arts, and most of our industries; and where one girl does it now, ten will do it in those days.

With her job, her children, and her home, her life may be sufficiently filled so that she won't bother to change husbands often except at the start.

All this is but a hope, I admit—the wistful blind conjecture of a fond great-grandfather-to-be and of a happily married man. But one thing at least is sure:

By a hundred years from now many old bonds will be broken; men and women will do as they please. And so, for the first time in history, the human race will know at least, what sort of marriage it really does like!

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So Be Cautious

To miss a kiss
Is more amiss
Than it would be
To kiss a miss
Provided that
The kiss you miss
The miss herself
Would never miss
But if you try
To kiss a miss
With whom a kiss
Would be amiss
You'd better always
Miss the kiss.—Ex.

Human bones believed to be 40,000 years old have been found in Crimea by a Soviet expedition.

Neighbor—I wonder why your new baby brother cries so much?
Bobby—Oh, I guess you'd cry too if all your teeth were out and your hair all off and your legs so week you couldn't stand on them.

Morrison—What causes all the commotion in your neighborhood?

Rannells—You see it's this way. We are keeping our radio going late at night so the people next door will be too sleepy to mow the lawn so early and they keep mowing the lawn early so we won't feel like staying up so late to play the radio.

Annual Appropriation Bill

An ordinance making appropriations for the corporate purposes of the Village of Broadlands, Illinois, for the fiscal year commencing on the 30th day of April, A. D. 1936, and ending on the 30th day of April, A. D. 1937.

Be it ordained by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Broadlands, Illinois:

Section 1. That the following sums, or so much thereof as may be authorized by law, be and the same are hereby appropriated for the corporate purposes of the Village of Broadlands, Illinois, to defray all necessary expenses and liabilities of said Village of Broadlands, as herein-after specified, for the fiscal year commencing on the 30th day of April, A. D. 1936, and ending on the 30th day of April, A. D. 1937, to-wit:

For Streets and Alleys	\$2500.00
For Fire Department	\$625.00
For Police Department	\$200.00
For Salaries of Village Officers	\$100.00
For Legal Expenses	\$100.00
For General Work—keeping building in repair, mowing weeds, and general odd jobs necessary to be done in and about the village	\$600.00
For Miscellaneous expenses	\$175.00
For Lighting Village streets, village hall, park and other public buildings	\$600.00
Total Appropriated	\$4,900.00

Section 2. The said several sums of money are hereby appropriated from moneys received and to be received by the Village of Broadlands, Illinois, from all sources.

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Broadlands, Illinois, this 3rd day of June, A. D. 1936.

H. L. Krenzien,
Village Clerk.

Approved by me this 3rd day of June, A. D. 1936.

C. D. McCormick,
President of the Board of Trustees.

DR. R. W. SWICKARD

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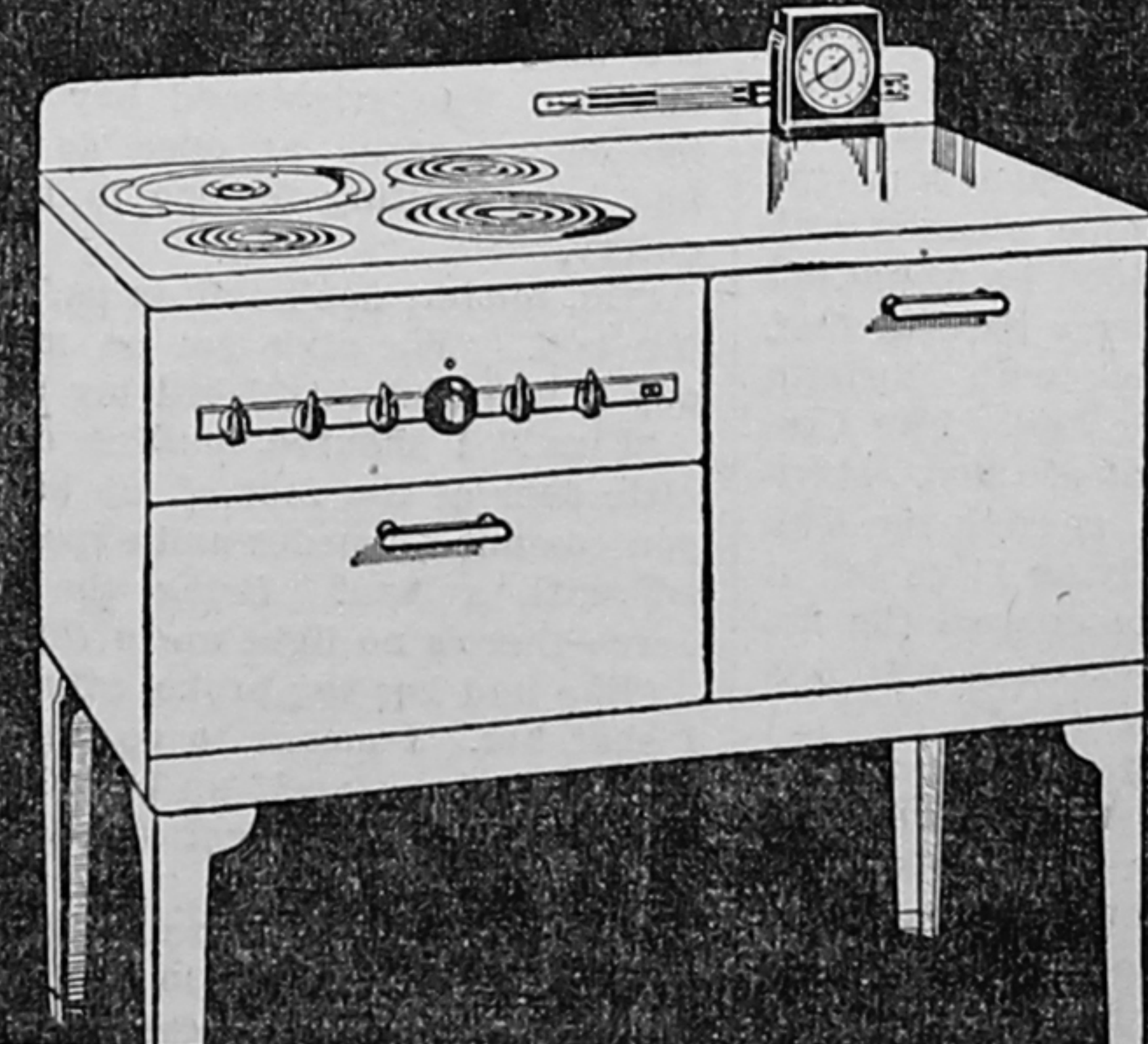
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