

Trials in Tact

or

What Would You Do?

(Conducted by Savoir-Faire)

UNDER this heading, an every-day problem will be set week by week, and readers are invited to send in their solutions, for which marks will be awarded. Prizes are offered to those obtaining the most marks over a series of ten. First prize, £2/2/-; second prize, £1/1/-; and third prize, 10/6 for each series.

Competitors may send in their own problems for publication and solution and a prize of 10/6 will be given for the best one sent in during each series, and 5/- for each contributed problem used.

Problem No. 4.

1st Series.

Miss A. has been numbering among her friends a young man, Mr. B., whom she sees frequently, and who has always been most popular with the younger set.

Through an accident, it comes to the knowledge of Mrs. C. (the mother of Miss A.'s girl friend) of some unseemly behaviour on the part of Mr. B.

Mrs. C. has been fond of Mr. B. for some years, and for the sake of his future and her esteem for his parents, she decides to keep the matter as private as possible, consulting a gentleman of high repute on the matter, who points out to Mr. B. the seriousness of his offences and strongly warns him against any recurrences. At the same time, she feels it her duty to warn her daughter and Miss A. against Mr. B.

How then should Miss A. behave when she next meets Mr. B., as she is doubtful if he is aware of her knowledge?

Suggested by "Ginger."

Problem No. 5.

1st Series.

Mr. A. and Miss B. are at a shop counter, collecting their change. Mr. A. drops several coins, and while he is looking for them Miss C. enters the shop, and seeing a half-crown on the floor at the feet of Miss B., who is standing near the counter, "fiddling" in her bag, picks up the coin, and, thinking Miss B. has dropped it, offers it to her. Miss B., being unscrupulous, takes it.

The girl behind the counter, Miss D., witnesses everything, and knows that Miss B. is perfectly aware that the half-crown belongs to Mr. A. What should Miss D. do or say?

Suggested by Miss R. Baker.

A non-de-plume may be used, but names and addresses must be sent. The same non-de-plume must be retained throughout the series. All replies must bear a postmark dated not later than the Thursday after the date of the journal in which the problem appears, and should be addressed to "Savoir-Faire," "Radio Record and Electric Home Journal," P.O. Box 1032, Wellington.

Savoir-Faire's decision must in every case be accepted as final.

Notes

Jean, Te Puke, and Mary.—I much regret that your solutions to Problem No. 2 were too late to be included—postmarked the 14th—but carry on. You will probably catch up during the series.

Miss Rhoda Green.—Thank you for your letter. The matter is quite in order. I realised that you are one and the same.

Solution of Problem No. 2

Miss A. has, of course, put herself in the wrong by giving Mrs. B. a false excuse. Had she been unwilling to give the real one, she should have contented herself with saying that she was unable to accept for that evening. I do not agree with those correspondents who suggest that Miss A. should ignore Mrs. B.'s presence in the theatre. There is always the possibility that Mrs. B. may lean over and inquire after Miss A.'s health. I am of the same opinion as Miss N. Johnston, that "attack is the best defence." Further, I think Mrs. B. is entitled to an explanation, as she will probably feel wounded. On the other hand, there is no occasion to make a lot of the matter, and a fuss about the invitation would probably be distasteful to Mrs. B.

I think the right course for Miss A. to adopt is to turn to Mrs. B. at once, say how sorry she was to feel obliged to decline the invitation, and explain that after a rest she felt so much better that, when Mr. C. afterwards asked her to go to the pictures, she accepted as she thought the outing would do her good, as suggested by "Apple Pies Mary" and many others.

Marks for Problem 3 are as follows:—

A trier, 4; Absolve Meam Animam, 0; Anon, 4; Apple Pie Mary, 5; Bonza, 3; Miss Rachel Baker, 0; Clara, 3; Duplex, 5; Deerfoot, 5; Equity, 4; Fiat Pax, 3; Frances, 3; Miss Rhoda Green, 5; Grace, 4; Ginger, 3; Haven, 4; Irene, 2; Miss N. Johnston, 5; Jonquil, 2; Kummel, 3; Listener-in, 1; Lucid, 3; Mrs. Mason, 5; Myra, 3; Mayflower, 4; Michael, 5; Natural, 4; Nomen, 2; Nintz, 0; Olivia, 3; Priscilla, 5; Pumpkin, 3; Patience, 2; Query, 3; Radex, 3; Radio, 4; Rosa, 4; Senga, 5; Scylla, 3; Summit, 2; Thames, 3; Tuner, 0; Topaz, 2; Undine, 0; Viola, 2; Verity, 0; V.L.A., 5; Wynward, 2; Weaver, 0; Xylonite, 3; Xerxes, 0; Yum-yum, 4; Zenobia, 3.

Are They Real?

Tests for Gems

WHEN an artificial jewel is examined under a powerful magnifying glass, it will generally be found to contain a number of minute vesicles, produced by the bubbles of air entangled in the liquid glass while the gem was being made. This is at once a proof of the nature of the jewel in which they are found, nothing of the kind being present in the real gem.

Another method of distinguishing artificial from real gems, is that the glass of which they are formed is considerably softer than a true jewel, and readily admits of being scratched by an onyx, or fine quartz sand.

Artificial gems can also be distinguished by their power of conducting heat being much inferior to that of a real gem. For, when a false jewel is breathed on, the moisture condensed from the breath will remain much longer than would happen in the case of a real jewel. So, also, when an imitation gem is placed in contact with the warm skin, it will cease to produce a feeling of coldness sooner than a real jewel.

Real gems may sometimes be found to be phosphorescent; that is to say, when they are long exposed to the sunshine, they will afterwards give out a certain amount of light if placed in a dark room. This is especially the case with the diamond. Now, as the property of being phosphorescent in the dark is not possessed by paste, it proves that the jewel that does shine in the dark is a real one.

The nature of jewels may also be learnt by rubbing them on a piece of warm silk, so as to render them sufficiently electrified to attract small feathers and similar objects. In the case of false gems, they will be found to retain the electricity for only from half-an-hour to an hour; while the true jewels continue to exert the power of attraction they have thus acquired from a quarter of a day to a day and a half.

In Lighter Vein

Teacher: "What is your father's occupation, Ida?"

Ida: "He's a worm imitator."

"And what is that?"

"He bores holes in furniture for an antique dealer."

"I had a great game to-day, dear," commenced Mrs. Tryhorn, on her return from golf. "Mrs. Golt was there, and during a mixed foursome, drove the ball into a horse's nosebag."

"Indeed," replied her husband, "I bet she received a lot of chaff!"

The audience was intently watching the emotional drama, and the heroine was tearfully deploring the announcement that her soldier lover had been sentenced to death.

"Oh, what is there left for me now?" she cried in anguish. "What is there left for me now?"

"Ice cream, cigarettes, ginger ale, peanuts, and lollies!" came the startling cry from the vendor in the gallery, who had forgotten that the curtain was still up.