

# How Did You Gauge the Situation?

THE majority of competitors took the obvious course and recommended that Miss B. should tell Mr. A. before marriage the fact of her being an adopted child. In this I quite agree, entirely on the ground that if this course were not taken the girl's mind would not be at rest. The very fact that doubt existed in her mind as to whether she should or should not inform her prospective husband shows that she should do so. In the ideal marriage—and on that, facts as stated, there is no reason why his, finally, should not be so described—there should be the fullest camaraderie and friendship. Those qualities can be based only upon absolute frankness.

The walk of life in which Mr. A. is placed makes this all the more essential on the part of Miss B. The fact that he has an ancestral home indicates his status in life, and his conventional nature indicates the importance attaching to conduct, birth, and prestige. Knowing him and loving him as she does, and, moreover, appreciating to the full the responsibilities of his position and standing, Miss B. would be gravely at fault in not informing him of the facts. Whether his love is adequate to triumph over the obstacle—if, indeed, he regards it as an obstacle at all—is outside the question. That is a risk she must take, if she is to attain to the highest standard of conduct. Many girls, it may be conceded, in their desire to make a good match, would doubtless fail under this test, but in my opinion there is only one honourable course open—tell and take the risk.

BRIEF extracts are:—

"I would say: Yes, by all means acquaint Mr. A. of the fact that the late Mr. and Mrs. B. were her parents only by adoption, and so have first say herself. It generally happens that there are a few would-be well-meaning old

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## Solutions to No. 10, of Trials in Tact

*Problem No. 10.—"Conventional Mr. A., loving Miss B., asks her to become his wife and share his ancestral home. Miss B. reciprocates his affection, but before accepting his offer, should she acquaint him with the closely-guarded secret that the highly-respected Mr. and Mrs. B. (now deceased) were her parents only by adoption?"*

dears who would be delighted to impart the information even in years afterwards, and then the question would be asked, 'Why didn't you tell me so?'—Unomi.

"If Mr. A. really cares for Miss B. he will undoubtedly appreciate and respect her confidence, knowing full well the effort it would cause, and the anxiety she must feel as to the result of her disclosure. And Miss B. herself will feel much happier and better satisfied knowing that she has done the right thing. Marriage is sacred, therefore the husband and wife should have no secrets from each other."—Eenan.

"As the problem reads, there is a doubt in Miss B.'s mind, and on account of this doubt I think she should frankly tell him everything, otherwise the doubt might trouble her later, when it will be harder to tell. The words 'conventional' and 'ancestral home' suggest that Mr. A. is honourable, and of good family, therefore the secret is safe with him, and will still be 'closely guarded,' whether the marriage takes place or not. Moreover, he loves Miss B., and if his love won't stand a small test like that it would not be much to lean on through life, when much harder tests might confront them both."—Fanny.

"Great as the temptation would be to remain silent, I think before Miss B. accepts conventional Mr. A. she should acquaint him with the fact that she is adopted. Apparently Mr. A., with his ancestral home, is well known, and his marriage would cause a stir, arousing much interest in his wife. The matter of her adoption is supposed to be a closely-guarded secret, but still there may be just one acquainted with the true facts who would not be above discussing the matter, and it might easily reach Mr. A.'s ears. Before marriage the fate rests in Mr. A.'s hands, but after marriage, if he ever should find out, he is likely to despise his wife for her deception. But apart from all this, I think the situation demands straightforward treatment."—Ivy Sen.

### Marks Awarded.

Ace, 3; Applepie Mary, 3; Artful, 0; Barbara, 3; Clara, 3; Clericus, 0; Camp-fire, 0; Duplex, 2; Deerfoot, 0; Eenan, 5; Effie, 5; Equity, 3; Fanny, 5; Frances, 4; Flirt, 3; Flora, 0; Heather, 3; Hopscotch, 2; Iota, 3; Ivy Sen, 5; Irene, 3; Kate, 3; Kia-Ora, 4; Maybelle, 3; Mrs. Mason, 5; Michael, 5; Myra, 0; Mavis, 4; Magpie, 5; Nemo, 5; Nintz, 3; Natural, 3; Nomen, 3; Nippy, 6; Mrs. Oldman, 5; Olivia, 5; Open-door, 3; Ooney, 3; Pumpkin, 3; Sardonyx, 5; Summit, 3; Tuner, 3; Topaz, 3; Tommy, 0; Undine, 3; Vivat, 5; Viator, 5; Viola, 0; Verity, 5; Wynward, 0; Weaver, 5; Zenobia, 2; Unami, 3.

"Natural" (2), "Radex" (1), "Sne" (1), "Ben" (1), "Nintz" (1), "La Femme" (1), "Ivy Sen" (1), and "Nemo." Will those in this list who do not receive the money to which they are entitled by early post please write for same, as one or two addresses have been misplaced?

## Truly a Modern Home

### Award of Prizes.

THE winner of the two-guinea prize for most points over the Second Series proves to be "Nemo," with 45. Two competitors, "Fanny" and "Natural," tied for the second prize of one guinea, and their work was so meritorious that in this instance we are not dividing the prize, but sending a guinea to each. The third prize of half-a-guinea goes to "Viator," with 41 points. The standard of work amongst the leaders was very high, and there was quite a number in close attendance upon the place-winners.

The prize of 7/6 for the best problem sent in over the series is awarded to "Apple Pie Mary." Others who sent in problems that were used are

THE new nurses' home of the Middlesex Hospital, Foley Street, W., is extraordinarily complete. The cost of the new building—£300,000—has been met by an anonymous donor. There are shampoo sprays, electric hair driers, hot and cold water in every bedroom, a ballroom, a Badminton court on the roof, and a hard tennis court below. A swimming bath is in process of completion. There will be no smoke or soot in this oak-panelled, marble-floored building. There are no chimneys, as all the fires are electric.

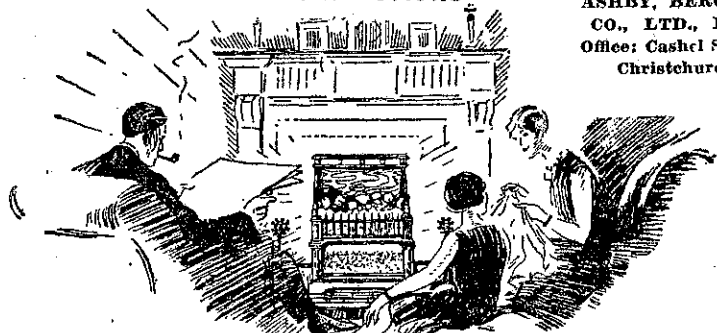
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