

Kathleen Norris Says: Cut Expenses Down and Save Money

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"In company he is amusing enough, but at home it is money—money—money."

By KATHLEEN NORRIS

"MY HUSBAND has only one fault," writes Marcia Green. "But it is so serious a fault that I am seriously considering leaving him. We have been married 11 years, we have one son, a lovely home, a nice circle of friends. Bob is successful in business, although admitting himself that we always will be more or less in a rut, for he is only one employee in a plant that employs thousands, with small chance of bettering himself. "He doesn't drink, gamble, play about with other women. He is a devoted husband and father, popular and friendly. Well, then, what is it? I'll tell you. Bob thinks, talks, dreams of nothing but money, whenever we are alone. In company he is amusing enough, but at home it is money—money—money. He feels that he doesn't earn enough, that we don't save, that I am extravagant."

"Now, the point is, I'm not extravagant. I keep a nice house, with only one day's domestic help every week. I dress economically, and while Bobby goes to a private school, he has twice won scholarships that cut that expense down to \$100 a year. Food, of course, is a big item; we are all healthy eaters and we entertain moderately. We have one car, used mostly by me. We do not save money, but our bills, all added together, would not total \$1,000. Among our friends, somewhat similarly situated, I think we would be considered unusually fortunate and completely solvent. So why this eternal anxiety about expenses? 'Must we buy that, dear? Is it necessary to paper the dining room? The boy has to have roller-skates, I suppose?' That's what I get day in and day out."

Parents Were Poor.

"Bob's people were very poor. My own were not. I had a lovely home, and my father still is employed and independent; mother died years ago. Can you give me a few good suggestions as to how I can cure my husband of his penuriousness, or do you believe it is too deep-rooted to cure?"

"It seems to be growing on him. In our early married years he was much more generous, and when we were engaged I actually had to scold him for his extravagance. But of late he grows less and less willing to spend money, and the result is that our home atmosphere is uncomfortable and strained. Feeling that this may be the result of early inhibitions, I have asked him to go to a psychiatrist, but he rejected this suggestion utterly. Years ago, when you wrote that money was the most important element in marriage, I did not believe you, but I do now. What shall I do?"

I think this situation, Marcia, arises from a condition that is prevalent in our American domestic scene today. And I think the cure lies with you, rather than with Bob.

When you married you felt that if you had a nice home, and paid your bills, that was enough. Perhaps it was, then. But it is not now. Bob feels the changing temper of the times; apparently you don't. Bob always has worked hard, he knows the value of money. You never have learned it.

Bob is in the employ of an immense concern. He knows that un-

SPEND LESS

Money, the villain in many, many marriages, has driven a wedge between Marcia and her husband, Bob. Bob, who stems from very poor parents, continually complains because Marcia does not handle the financial end of her household duties economically enough. She fails to save any money and in these inflationary times her demands for more money increase. He can't understand where his salary disappears and constantly attempts to curb the spending of any money.

Miss Norris chastises Marcia for uncalled for extravagances and advises her to eliminate many unnecessary luxuries to which she treats herself. By putting her shoulder to the wheel, Marcia can help Bob in building up a savings account. According to Miss Norris, Marcia is not pulling her share of the load. When she becomes a helpmate instead of a spend-mate there will be less friction and more harmony in the household.

less he has exceptional and extraordinary capacity, he will not rise in that employ. Hundreds of fresher young men are ahead of him in the race. Hundreds of others will move out into separate enterprises of their own. Bob can't either rise or escape.

So, at 40, he sees himself trapped. He is not saving a cent. His home expenses are increasing with the inexorable need of the times. You are expanding into luxuries while hardly able to manage necessities.

Problem Is Common.

Your problem is not unusual. It is safe to say that in all our cities there are blocks and blocks of small, respectable, comfortable apartments whose breadwinners are as anxious as Bob. Where does the money go, what the Dickens do the women do with it? The car is an extravagance beyond the reach of all but 1 per cent — note that figure — 1 per cent of the men and women of Europe. Private school, beauty parlor, cleaner, flowers, drug store, telegrams, ice skates, Minnie's services at \$1 an hour, ice cream for the company dinner. How these little foxes destroy the vines, and add those becoming gray streaks to handsome Bob's hair!

If you really want to help, Marcia, move from that \$85 flat to a plain little cottage somewhere on the outskirts of town. Put Bobby in public school. Do your own hair. Cut down, cut down, cut down, so that \$150 of that \$500 a month can go into government bonds. Talk solvency, instead of spending. Talk freedom from debt instead of how to pay bills. Tell Bob that if anything happens to him you and Bobby can manage splendidly, what with chickens and an apple tree, and a child or two to board.

In other words, pull your weight of the load. Relieve him of worry and he won't mind plain meals. Stop trying to impress your richer friends, and impress Bob with the fact that he has what the old books used to prettily call a helpmate. Bob knows we have stormy weather ahead. Get ready for it. Shorten sail.

102, She Still Quilts

VIROQUA, WIS. — Mrs. Lucy Grubb, Viroqua's oldest resident, recently celebrated her 102nd birthday anniversary and it didn't interfere with her established routine of housework.

She washes dishes, helps cook and sweeps floors. In the summertime she helps in the garden.

Quilting is her hobby and she now is piecing a "charm quilt" for her daughter. Mrs. Grubb has lived in Viroqua for 99 years.

Woman's World

New Slipcovers Will Relieve Jaded Look of Tired Rooms

By Ertta Haley

SLIP covers, whether you are planning them as part of a redecorating scheme or using them to cover new furniture pieces done in muslin, are an important part of a dramatic decorating scheme, so it's a good idea to create styles that will enhance their surroundings.

Today, many newcomers to the homemaking ranks prefer to buy chairs, sofas or chaise lounge with only the muslin cover so they can use their own choice of style and fabric for either a traditional slip cover or a permanent slip cover to resemble the upholstery.

Even though you may be new to sewing, don't be afraid to tackle a slip cover project. The size need not overwhelm you as there is not much difficult sewing essential. And, if you want professional advice, there's a local sewing center which can give you latest decorating tricks and shortcuts to making them.

Plan Style, Select Fabric First

First decision in a sewing project of this type will be to decide the style you want to follow in decorating. After that you will know what to ask for in a fabric since patterns differ depending upon modern, 18th century or colonial.

Fabrics, you'll find, are plentiful, and there's a wide choice of floral, striped and plain designs running



Select fabric to enhance furniture . . .

the gamut from miniature to over-size designs as well as the old stand-bys in plain color minus designs of any kind. Pick your fabric according to size of the furniture piece; suit the type of room as well as the size of the furniture to be covered.

It would be inadvisable, for example, to use a large, bold design for a large, overstuffed chair when a plain, small printed design would do more to minimize the chair size.

Classic styles are nice to use when your room is of moderate proportions, and here, when you do not have too much space, it's wise to select solid colors neither too bright nor bold.

Bold patterns are ideal for setting off plain wall backgrounds. Another bright note in today's fabrics are the colored, coordinated designs that enable the home seamstress to



as well as the room.

mix stripes, floral and plain designs and still carry out the general color scheme in the room.

You might find it effective to carry out a sofa in a striped fabric, another chair in plain and still

Be Smart!



Mother calls them polo coats and grandmother's name was travel coats but call them anything you choose, they're still one of the nicest coat styles of any season. Big and comfortably enveloping, developed in many soft-surface coatings and lovely, gay colors, they depend on line and details such as collars, pockets, and/or cuffs for their smartness.

Spring Rayon Blouse



This attractive skirt and blouse combination is neat enough for office wear and feminine enough for an after-work date. The ruffled blouse is of soft, washable, one-denier spun rayon made of Avisco rayon yarns. The skirt is navy blue rayon crepe which goes with any of the new spring blouses.

another chair in plain with either floral or striped fabric for trimming.

If you have a very large couch you might cover that in a solid color and the pillow in floral or small stripes that are used elsewhere in the room, thus holding the decorative scheme together.

Select Cover

By Furniture Type

The classic slip cover with box-pleated flounce is always popular for practically every type of furniture. However, if your sofa or chair has a streamlined appearance, you might try a straight flounce with practically no pleats at all or a straight skirt with inverted corner pleats. For informal rooms, early American setting, use a gathered flounce on chairs and sofa in keeping with the general atmosphere of the room.

If your slip cover job is limited to antimacassars or miniature slip covers that cover back and arms of chairs, you'll follow the general procedure used in slip cover making. You will, however, have to give additional thought to fabric selection for the project since most of the original furniture piece covering will be in plain view. Avoid color or texture clashes.

Procedure Given For Actual Work

After you've decided on type of cover, take measurements to estimate yardage. Consider width of fabric selected in the final calculation. Generous estimates will give best results and three inch tuck-in allowance where fabric receives strain is essential. You will need a three-quarter inch allowance for seams.

Follow measurements for cutting and leave generous seam allowances. Be sure to follow the grain of the fabric. Keep lengthwise on up and down; crosswise grain, crosswise chair.

Seams should appear wherever there is one in the original upholstery. Otherwise, the finished cover will not fit with the precision it should.

Finish With Trim Of Cording or Fringe

Before joining the sections of slip cover, make trimming for seams and bottom edge. Applique cut-out flower clusters across back, seat or arms will have decorator appeal. The zigzag attachment on the sewing machine can be used for this stitching job.

To give a corded finish to slip covers, make a welting and use it to join slip cover sections and bottom edge of plain box finish. Welting is a cotton cord covered with a bias strip of material. Cut bias one and one-half to one and three-quarters of an inch wide, depending upon cord used. Place cord in center of bias strip. Fold strip over, bringing the edges together.

Stitch close to the cord with cording foot attachment on sewing machine. The same fabric as used in the chair or sofa can be used for this finish or it can be contrasting.

Closings for slip covers should be slide fasteners. Insert them at side of back leg, applying it as you would on a placket.

Touch of Elegance

A touch of ruffle either for day or evening is good and currently the vogue. It's being seen in abundance on petticoats, dressmaker swirl suits, blouses and new print dresses. The ruffle may be self fabric, crisp white organdie, embroidery, lace or contrasting solid color.

Sewing Circle Patterns

Winning Daytimer for Matrons Smart Frock Is Simple Sewing



1741
34-48

Slimming Frock

CREATED especially to flatter the slightly heavier figure, this charming afternoon dress has slimming lines and nice detail on shoulder and hip. Make short or three-quarter shaped sleeves, and use a pretty printed fabric in an all-over scroll or flower.

Pattern No. 1741 comes in sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46 and 48. Sizes 36, 37% yards of 35 or 39-inch.

1738
12-20

With Full Skirt

A SIMPLE yet extremely smart dress for misses that's bound to win applause on each wearing. Very easy to sew, too, with brief cap sleeves and full skirt. Tie a narrow belt softly in a bow.

Pattern No. 1738 is for sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20. Size 14, 4% yards of 35 or 39-inch.

Send an additional twenty-five cents for the Spring and Summer FASHION—its' checklist of bright ideas for summer wardrobes. Free knitting directions plus a free pattern printed inside the book. Send your order to:

SEWING CIRCLE PATTERN DEPT.
823 Mission St., San Francisco, Calif.
Enclose 25 cents in coins for each pattern desired.
Pattern No. _____ Size _____
Name _____
Address _____

School Kids 6 to 60

The time may come when the law makes people from 6 to 60 do school work, a group of teachers said recently.

Their reason: A good education is the world's best defense against war.

The prediction came from a 10-man commission which looked over the public school system for the American Association of School Administrators.

The commission said grownups should continue studying so they can keep up with "the new era of world events which suddenly has been ushered in."



HEAD COLD? that's a job for Comfy and Minty the MENTHOLATUM TWINS



Quick MENTHOLATUM

When head-cold misery makes you gasp for air, and nose feels raw and tender, reach for soothing Mentholum and B-R-E-A-T-H-E! Mentholum contains comforting Camphor and minty Menthol.

two famous, fast-acting ingredients that help thin out thick mucus, reduce swelling, soothe cold-inflamed membranes. Soon soreness eases up, head starts to clear. Don't take head-cold misery lying down—use Mentholum. ALSO RELIEVES CHEST-COLD TIGHTNESS, NASAL IRRITATION AND CHAPPING



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