

# Kathleen Norris Says:

## Shortening Sail at Your Home

Bell Syndicate.—WNU Features.



If you are lucky to have a country retreat, where he can find peace and quiet, putter with farm machinery, raise chickens, milk cows, sell fruit, where he can take his loved wife, baby girls, books and forget the world for a while, thank God for it.

By KATHLEEN NORRIS

"How long must we put up with my husband's postwar disillusionment and discontent?" writes Mrs. Harry Kling of Chicago. "He came back four months ago, and after the first delight at having him home again, honorably discharged, it has been nothing but difficulty and gloom. He was always a well-balanced man, affectionate, steady and contented. He is now nervous, critical, or worse than all darkly silent for hours. He has gone back into his old firm of claim adjusters, and is making good money, with good prospects ahead. But I can't stand this sort of home life much longer. No harmony, no conversation, no plans, no fun. He is 35, I am 32; our daughters are 5 and 3.

"Harry wants to give up our comfortable apartment, where I have a part-time maid, break up all our pleasant associations, upset the girls' schooling—they go to all-day nursery schools—and move to the country. He has his eye on a sprawling farm 35 miles out, house in bad repair, 52 acres partly cultivated, tenant house of three rooms—the farmhouse has about seven rooms, electric light fixtures and plumbing 40 years old, and everything imaginable in the way of refrigerator, telephone, gas stove, linoleums, curtaining, painting, yet to be done. Here he proposes we live for years—perhaps forever. I adore my husband, I have not loved any other man since I met him, at 20, but do you think it wise to pull up all our roots simply because he has been emotionally and nervously upset by the war? Won't he outgrow this in time? Wouldn't it be wiser to wait, for the girls' sake and for all our sakes?"

My answer to this is, my dear Mrs. Kling, don't make the mistake of thinking that this fearful war, some of whose phases have ended, is like any other war that ever was. After peace negotiations with the powers of savagery and lawlessness are signed, sealed and delivered, we still have a titanic job ahead of us—service folk and civilians alike. This postwar job will not only be to preserve world peace, it will be to preserve world sanity.

### A Shattered World.

It will not be only to keep a few hundred thousand depressed and mentally affected men sane; it will be to keep us all sane. This war has bitten too deep into the equilibrium of humanity; too much that is unthinkable and unbearable has happened. Europe will be peopled by millions of folk who have known what it was—for weeks, months, years—to be homeless, hungry, desperate. The sacred thing that is a man's right to work, to love, to serve his family, to build his home—has been outraged and destroyed.

Barren wastes of ashes and ruins will be wearily searched and combed by vaguely wandering hordes—children whose first experience of life was fright, fear, hunger. Women who have looked upon death, death in the mass, neaped hundreds of innocent women



His loved wife, his baby girls. . .

### MOVING TO THE COUNTRY

After returning from service Harry was able to return to his old position as a claim adjuster. He is earning a good salary and seemingly should be glad to get back into the old ways. His wife says she loves him as much as ever. They have two daughters, five and three, who are attending day nursery school.

Yet with all this, Harry is moody, unsociable and restless. He no longer is well balanced and light hearted. Something weighs him down. He wants to get away—from his job, the association of family and friends, the familiar scenes.

Lately he has fixed his mind on going into farming. He has found a 52-acre place somewhat rundown, and only partly cultivated at present. There are two houses on it, one of three rooms, the other seven. Both are in poor condition. It is here, 35 miles from town, that Harry wants to move his family. Harry's wife doesn't like the prospects.

and children slain, and lying unburied in what once were grassy parks and splendid streets.

Nothing like this ever has happened in the world before. Try to realize that we will not only be fighting, in these years to come, for those alien peoples overseas, we will be fighting with every humane and scientific weapon in our power for ourselves. That honor and charity and service may live on in the world, that homes and firesides, books and schools and tree-shaded towns may still exist, that our hearts and souls shall not be ravaged again by the fearful cruelties man may inflict upon his fellow-man, will take all that we have of courage and vision and hard, humble labor.

### A Country Retreat.

Your man has done his share. He has jeopardized his reason in these years when you and the babies waited for him, safe and snug in protected America. Now you three persons whom he loves must give him back those years.

If you are lucky enough to have a country retreat, where he can find peace and quiet, where he can putter with farm machinery, raise chickens, milk cows, sell fruit; where he can take his loved wife, his books, his baby girls, and forget the great world for awhile, thank God for it. Take it gratefully, and as he grows stronger and saner you'll see how he longs to share it, to let other wounded souls and bodies rest under his big trees, to let other bewildered soul-scarred men fish his stream, help harvest his corn, sleep deep in the country guest room shaded by the pear trees.

We are going to find some big words for what we have to do for our men now. Teaching, helping, cheering, healing. Begin with your own. Forget all the past, as Europe must. Think only of a better tomorrow, and do your share to make it come true.

### Preventing Tooth Decay

Fluorine solutions, mouthwashes and fluoride in drinking water are under experimentation. A poisonous element not to be trifled with, fluoride in extremely small amounts has prevented dental decay. Citizens of Kingston, N. Y., a city on the Hudson river, will drink fluoride-containing water while their neighbors down the line in Newburgh will get ordinary water. After a few years, dental comparisons should reveal whether other cities should fortify their water too.

# Gayly Colored Cottons Favored For Sunback Dresses, Swim Suits

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



WHAT a sun-worshiper fashion has come to be! The big idea this year seems to center about the theme of brief and beautiful clothes that bare you to the beneficent and health-giving rays of the sun. The tactful feature of this sun-exposure vogue is "hat a bolero or jacket is always added, thus providing a most clever coverage when you want to go stepping, here or there, for your bareback play-frock transforms into a charming double-duty costume.

The bare-back frock to the left is a perfect example of the new trend to sun - exposure fashions. Quaker gray broadcloth makes this sunback dress that is far from demure with its back cut to the waist, but as you will note, she has her bolero in hand ready to slip on at will. The dress has a large soft bow at the neck in front. White fluting adds a pretty trimming touch. Worn with its matching bolero, this dress is as modest as modest can be.

Not only does the costume described go sunning on the beach, but it will be fun to wear to barbecue parties and all sorts of get-together outdoor playtime occasions. When it comes to the fabrics used for the new sun-frocks, it's gay colored cottons that turn on the glamour full force. The best of it is that in these modern times one need have no misgivings as to whether the gorgeous prints or monotonous will fade. One of the miracles of the age is the achievement of everlasting cottons that you can buy as bright as you like and launder as often as you wish without danger of color deterioration or shrinkage. Among outstanding favorites, spun crash registers as something new and smart. This "classy" cotton tailors beautifully and the separate bolero made of it is chic to wear with slacks and shorts and bare-back dresses of contrast cottons, such as the modish eyeleted fabrics and the bright ginghams and the gorgeous printed piques. Now that you can get seersucker in gay plaids, everybody's calling for it. Not only

### Checks for Summer



This New York style in navy and white crepe artfully designs the now-so-voguish dressmaker checks for a woman's figure. The styling given this daytime dress is unusually attractive. Self fabric ruching, a flat bow at the neckline, and a subtly arranged fullness in the skirt contribute smart details. The large white pearl buttons adds greatly to their charm.

does it make up stunningly in the new bare midriff, sleeveless and bareback fashions, but it is "the latest" for swim suits with sarong skirts and bra tops. Checked ginghams and striped chambrays are also high fashion for sun frocks with boleros and for swim suits with matching beach coats. Yes, indeed, it's the soap 'n' water cottons that hold fashion's spotlight this summer.

Black cottons for sports and beach fashions especially rate top fashion. Speaking of black, the swim suit that is creating the big sensation is a sleek form-fitting one-piece made of black elasticized water-repellent velvet that is light as a feather in weight. Or you may choose models of black satin. Practical and ever so good-looking too, is the swim suit of black wool jersey. The girl centered in the illustration is wearing a handsome black swim suit. That this fair swimmer throws a white wool sweater about her shoulders is important news for a new fad is going the rounds which calls upon the sweater to play the role of a smart beach coat or wrap. Fashion-wise girls are taking up the idea with enthusiasm.

Much ado is being made over handsome accessory ensembles including bra and headdress made of brilliantly colorful striped or plaid taffeta. As you see pictured in the inset to the right, the bra is formed of an artfully arranged scarf of woven taffeta in gay stripes teamed with which is a draped headdress of the same beautiful taffeta. To add to the colorful scene on the beach, huge bags cleverly designed of fabrics to match the sun-exposure costumes together with wide self-fringed scarfs of the same material form a most fascinating twosome. These sets are ever so smart, made of gay gingham.

### Jacquard Sweaters Are Gay, Colorful

No wonder enthusiasm for the so-colorful, so-designful jacquard sweater is soaring to a new high. The advance models now arriving are beauties. Fancy seems to run to deep yoke effects. These sometimes extend over the shoulders in the new cap sleeve effect, forming an epaulet embroidery for the wrist-length sleeves. If you are going vacationing they are nice to take along. They look striking worn with the teen-age bright plaid skirt. Another practical sweater that is a welcome newcomer this summer is made of soap 'n' water white cotton jersey. It is grand to wear with the shorter shorts on the playground. Worn with slacks it makes the ideal garb for ambitious Victory gardeners. The cardigan-blouse type is attractively worn with smart pleated skirts or with the now-so-popular narrow wool skirt.

### Dressmaker Apron Lends Glamor to Basic Dress

Something new in the way of a striking novelty has happened. It is the dressmaker apron or "fashion apron" as it is sometimes called, designed to glamorize the basic black dress. Made of fine colorful taffeta or faille and other dress-up fabric, and ruffled all around with lace, it is far removed from the humble kitchen type. It ties around the waist like any apron and has sash-wide "apron strings" for a bustle bow at the back. One fetching style is fashioned of apple green faille trimmed with a wide ruffle of black Chantilly-type lace.

# HOUSEHOLD HINTS

Stacking cups one on top of the other is not good practice. Prevent breaking handles off by hanging them on hooks in the cupboard.

To remove cigarette stains from brass ash trays, rub the trays with a paste of salt and vinegar. Then wash well in hot water and soap suds.

If the contents of a tube of shaving cream or tooth paste have hardened, hold the tube under hot water for a short time. This will soften the paste.

A little turpentine on a soft cloth will remove all dirt film from and give a gloss to an enameled bedstead.

Hot water is better than cold to soak dried fruit and requires only half the time for soaking.

To repair a hole left in the wall by a nail, take equal parts of salt and starch, just enough to make a good patching plaster. Fill the holes and they will be neatly covered.

# Gay and Practical Sun Suit for a Tot



Comfortable Sun Suit

SHE is much too cool and comfortable to care what the temperature is! Lucky little girl to have such a sensible, practical and pretty play suit. The ric rac trimmed bolero can be slipped on to prevent too much sunbathing on a tiny back and shoulders.

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### SNAPPY FACTS

about RUBBER

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Two synthetic rubber plants operated by The B. F. Goodrich Company have produced 300,000,000 pounds of synthetic rubber. This is equivalent to the normal yield of 28,000,000 Far Eastern Rubber trees, requiring the services of 79,000 natives for the same period of time the plants have been in operation. The two plants employ about 1,200 men and women.

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### ASK ME ANOTHER?

A General Quiz

#### The Questions

1. What is Inisfail?
2. What is the legal status of Indians in Canada?
3. What is the difference between a stogy and a stogie?
4. In a newspaper, what is a spreadhead?
5. What is the oldest public park in the United States?
6. How many wings do bees have?
7. What does maladdress mean?
8. What is the world's largest bridge?

#### The Answers

1. A poetic name for Ireland.
2. They are minors.
3. A stogy is a coarse boot or shoe; a stogie is a slender cigar.
4. A headline that runs over two or more columns.
5. Boston Commons, in Boston.
6. Four.
7. Awkwardness or rudeness in speech; a lack of politeness or tact.
8. Oakland Bay bridge in San Francisco.

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