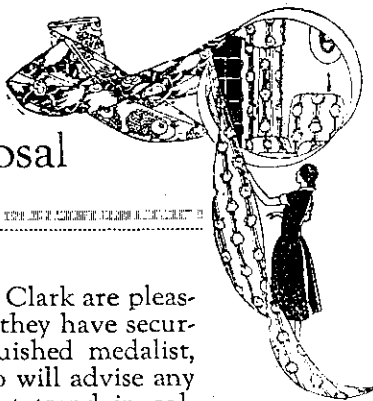


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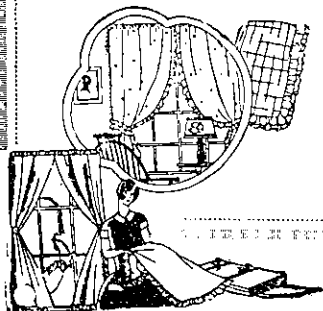
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Youthful Forties!

Keeping Time—and Women—
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WHEN Sir George Alexander, in his fortieth year, produced *The Man of Forty*, he said: "This looks like getting on in years, doesn't it?"

That was a popular idea at the time, but we have grown older and wiser since then. To-day the man of forty is quite a youth compared with his predecessor of twenty-five years ago, and looks a mere boy beside the whiskered ancients of forty as drawn by Charles Keene and George du Maurier.

At the present moment, according to the figures of the Registrar-General, there are five thousand Englishmen of forty who don't even consider themselves old enough to marry, and so much is this the day of the young man that sixty-seven thousand over forty and well beyond it remain gay and debonaire bachelors who would probably scorn any suggestion that they "were getting well on in years."

running after him. They aren't; or, if they are, they don't marry him. Five out of every six men of forty are married, but the proportion of bachelors who wed at that age is very small—only one out of every 156. The marrying time for men is from twenty-one to twenty-eight. After that they appear to get shy of matrimony.

If a man has not married by the time he is forty, it is a 22 to 1 chance against his marrying at all. Despite his supposed attraction (in fiction) for flappers, it is very rarely that a man of forty marries a young girl.

Only one in a hundred has a bride under twenty, a mere 12 per cent. marry women of twenty to twenty-five, and less than 20 per cent. take wives of twenty-five to twenty-nine. The largest group wed women of thirty, but 43 per cent. of the brides are between thirty and forty.

It is not to be supposed that those latter groups of brides are all dashing and merry widows. Nearly one-half are spinsters. Of bachelors who wed at the age of forty only one out of four marries a widow. Even when the men of forty are themselves widowed nearly 72 per cent. of them prefer spinsters!

Forty and the Flapper

IN this generation the man of forty, clean-shaven, well-groomed, carrying himself erect, looks and feels as young as the early-Victorian youth of twenty-five. I don't say that all the young women are

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