

# Our Own Book of Etiquette

By W. Hill

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When seeing Nellie home. "What should she do? Ask him in? Or should she say good night outside?" This query from the day of Messalina up to the present time has baffled a lot of swell girls. This, we believe, is the right answer for use among the bon tons. By all means, ask him in, girls, but you go in the front door and let him sneak around to the back door, so the neighbors won't see.



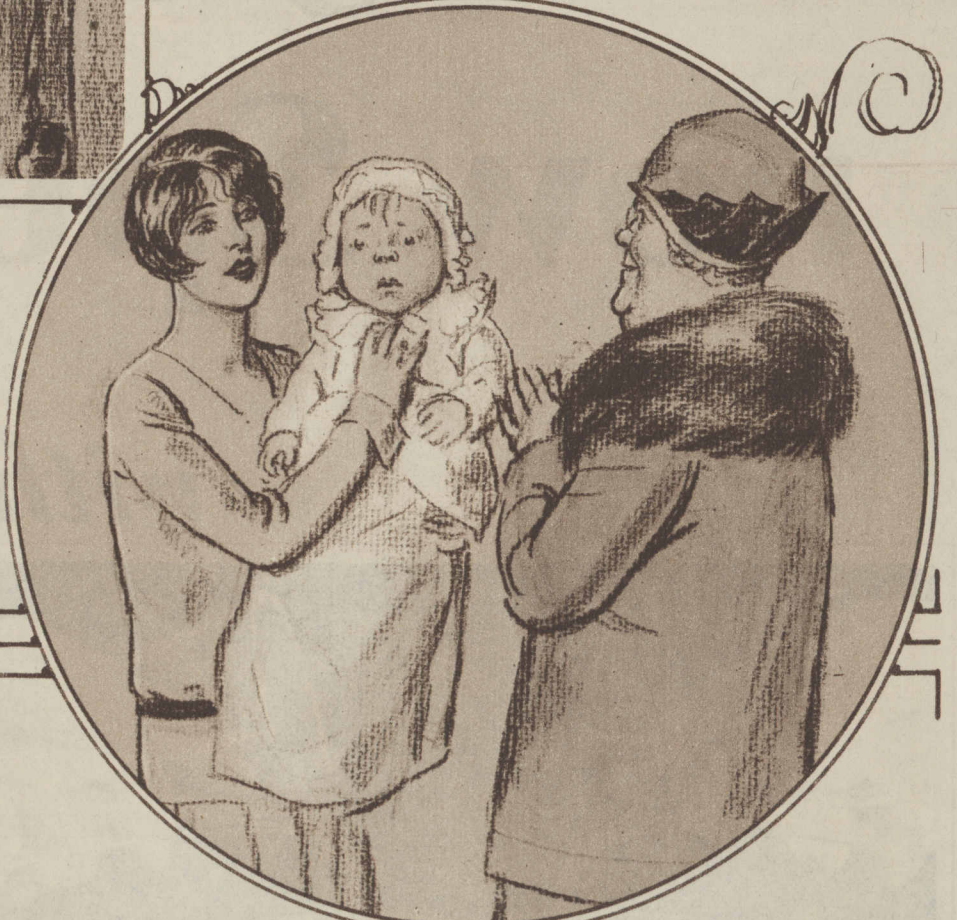
Elevator technique. It is a terrible breach of etiquette for a man without much hair and one whose head is not a pretty shape to remove his hat in an elevator full of feminine wiles. Women with an innate feeling for the beautiful hate to be disillusioned.



How to use a guest bathroom. Etiquette demands that a house guest should not spend hours and hours at a stretch in the bathtub to the exclusion of others who may have just as much right to the tub and the huck toweling. Then, too, rattling the knob of the bathroom door to hasten the occupant makes hard feeling all around. It is a good plan for a guest to print in nice big letters a sign reading, "Out of Order." Let him pin this on the door. Then he can stay as long as he chooses.



How to go home early. An unattached young man who is asked to accompany a lady older than himself to the opera and tires of his hostess before the evening is over ought not to tiptoe away without some little pleasantries as to why he is not seeing her home. Good form requires a well bred youth to say, for example, "I know you will pardon me, Mrs. Marrowbone, if I wish you 'bon nuit,' as the French say, because I have on thin shoes and they are slightly damp from getting out of the taxi. Promise me you will take the street car home. I shall feel safer about you, than in a taxi!"



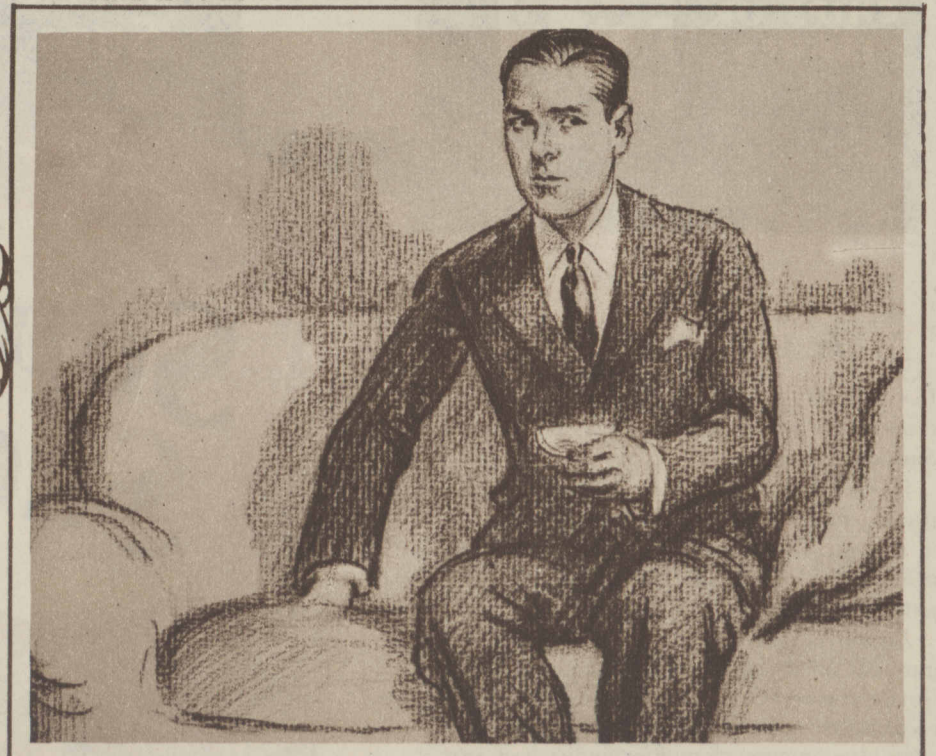
What to say about Baby Dicky. Any one who is a bear for etiquette must say just the right thing when viewing a new baby. Something not too hackneyed and not too insulting to the parents, like "Isn't he just the image of you, Winifred?" One should look hard at the child, inhale deeply, and say, for example, "O, hasn't he nice big pores. And isn't he red—how I do love red!"



As to tipping. Many hostesses will not allow their week-end visitors to fee the servants, on the ground that tipping spoils them. Maybe so, but a guest should insist on doing something to show appreciation for services rendered. When the hostess is not around one may in all propriety say to the maid or the cook or the second assistant laundress, as the case may be, "Rose, I would like to do something for you. Why not come and work for me? I will be happy to double your wages."



A bride's thank you note. A bride should write her thank you notes never later than two years from her wedding day. This sample note is a model which a bride may do well to copy. "Dear Aunt Bessie: It was darling of you to send us the dear little check. Everybody sent us so many big things that we were glad to get something little for a change. Hartwig and I have thought and thought, but we can't think of a thing we can get with it, so we are going to keep it as a nest egg toward my dentistry. I shall think of you during my bridge work. Fondlest love, Gert."



How to treat hors d'oeuvres. When unstuffed olives are served at cocktail time much embarrassment is often caused when guests are left with olive pits in their hands. Many people are accustomed to throw olive pits behind radiators and such, but a really well bred guest will sneak his olive pits between the cushions of the overstuffed sofa.