

Modern Suitor Plays Safe, Asks The Girl Before Buying A Ring

A YOUNG SUEIK in the movies may hug a sparkling diamond in his inside pocket as he goes with palpitating heart to "pop the question," but they don't do it that way in Cedar Rapids.

Not if the jewelers who provide the stones know anything about it.

At the risk of being considered a prospective customer getting a little survey of the situation for his personal use, a reporter queried local engagement ring merchants on the jewelry fashions of the modern Cedar Rapids young man in the plighting of his troth.

"He asks the girl first and buys the diamond afterward every time," said one prominent jeweler. "He takes no chances. Nervous about buying? Not the 1925 model. He walks right up to the bar, puts his foot on the rail, and says 'I want an engagement ring,' with as much assurance as he would order a glass of malted milk, or a ginger ale.

Three Disappointed. "Oh, of course a few of them rely on the sparkle of a diamond to clinch their arguments, and lose," said another merchant.

In the last three years we have seen young men bring back diamonds with hard luck stories about being turned down. We usually fix them over into the pins, or a man's ring, or take them back.

Do the girls come along to help pick out the rings? "Often. They usually know a lot more about diamonds than the men. In the old days a woman would say, 'I want a Tiffany set. I like so and so. But today she says 'I want something different. We have fifty different mountings in stock."

And strange to say, the girl usually is more economical than the man. She probably wants an extra fine ring, but she's backward about asking for it. The man doesn't generally begrudge her anything at that stage of the game, so goes the limit.

"One young fellow was looking at diamonds the other day, and set his heart on one which was more than he wanted to pay. My clerk touched a responsive chord with him when he jokingly remarked, 'Well, that may be high but it's not too good for your girl!'

"No," he blurted. "The best one you've got in stock isn't too good for her. And that's the way they feel about it generally. For this reason we'd rather wait on the men alone, nowadays."

But here's a trick some of the girls resort to and it's the thing the jewelers dislike to think of. They'll come around with a diamond which their betrothed has just given them, and ask how much it costs!

"We had one girl come in with a white sapphire once and ask us what her 'diamond' was worth," said one jeweler. "We stalled and stalled, and got out of telling her. She told me it cost \$200 and we didn't answer. Two hundred dollars? You could buy a sapphire as big as a Rock Island light for that!"

"Do many young men buy their engagement rings on the installment plan? This question received a variety of answers, depending on the class of trade of the shop asked. All seem to agree that it's "done in the big way."

It's hardly etiquette to do it with wedding rings, though," said one merchant. "I know of one case where a man got married to a girl with two children, and they now have another child, and he hasn't paid for his \$100 wedding ring yet."

"On the other hand, a man came in last month and bought a \$300 engagement ring for his wife and paid cash. 'I've been married for twenty years,' he said, 'but I haven't been able until now to buy a regular engagement ring.'"

Is the practice of exchanging fraternity pins cutting in on the custom of giving diamonds? "Most of the jewelers only laughed at this query. 'Down at the fraternity house at school,' replied a well known young diamond dealer, "when a fellow hung a pin on his girl, we always asked, 'Are they engaged to be married, or just engaged?' The fraternity pin just seemed to mean a 'monopoly on dates.'"

"But of course," he added, serious ly, "most fraternity pin engagements become diamond ring engagements."

Wedding Rings Different. The advent of the white gold and platinum mountings has been the biggest change in the style of engagement rings in the last few years. The new materials show off the brilliant luster and the color of the gems, in all their glory. The shape of the mountings, too, tends more and more to make the stone look as large as possible. The old style claw mountings, Tiffanys and Belchers,

give way to the loving cup, and other models. Wedding rings, especially, have undergone a change. The old custom of double ring ceremonies is going out fast; the local authorities declare, "The idea seems to be to buy but one ring, and make that a better one. Orange blossom and wreath designs are used, instead of the plain bands. Often diamonds are used in small settings all the way around the ring."

Young men stopping in to buy wedding rings, seem by far more self-conscious than the engagement ring purchasers, say the jewelers. "I can spot a wedding ring buyer every time," said one merchant. "He, and maybe she, too, will slip in rather sheepishly, keep their eyes glued on the counter, assume a staid and without raising their eyes to mine, say they 'wannta look at a ring.' I always know the signs. What they want something with a set, like a 'ruby?' often ask, just to coax them out."

No, something round, they'll usually say. They'll often never call out 'wedding rings.' "Oh, you mean a wedding ring? And then they'll blush and start looking at what I show them."

While the reporter was in one store a woman came in with some old jewelry she had assumed, which she wanted to sell. It was easy to see that they were treasures, and that it was only with a tug at her heart that she forced herself to part with them. After the transaction was over she remarked that she had some diamonds at home she would like to dispose of.

"How large are they?" the merchant asked. "One is about the size of a pea," she said. "Well, slight unseen, I would say it's worth at least \$150," he exclaimed. The woman seemed astonished.

"I had no idea they were worth that much," she said. And she went her way rejoicing. "Many people do not realize the value of diamonds," the merchant declared. "They have increased in value 100 per cent in about the last ten years. Why? Because they're getting scarcer every year. Where they used to get them in the gravel that of the ground at Kimberley, now they go 2,000 and 3,000 feet deep for them."

Do men wear diamonds as much as they used to?" asked the reporter in ending one interview. "I can answer you best by telling the story of Pat, the Irish hod carrier. One day, like a jigg, a lot of money and he budded out in a flashy suit, and sported diamond rings on his fingers, and a diamond stick pin in his tie, and a diamond stud in his shirt."

"What the matter with you?" asked his old boss, as he eyed the display of gems. "Don't you know it isn't the style for men to wear diamonds any more?" "No, sir. All I know is, them that has them, wears 'em."

SHELLSBURG MASONS TO INSTALL NEW OFFICERS

Special to The Gazette. SHELLSBURG, Jan. 8.—Benton Club Lodge No. 2, F. and A. M., conferred the first and third degrees on candidates at the regular meeting Tuesday evening. Work began at 7:30 and a 6 o'clock dinner was served to sixty folk by White Lily Chapter O. E. S., work being resumed at 7:30.

Eighteen members of the Vinton Masonic lodge were present. The visitors who assisted in the duties of worshipful master were F. J. Wratislaw, I. M. Reeve and John Ruhl.

A special meeting will be held Saturday to install the following officers: Master—Willard McCorkle, senior warden—Russell Eison, junior warden—Joseph Thompson, secretary—Glean McCintock, treasurer—A. K. Rice, deacons—W. O. Penrose, Earl Bull, stewards—Frank Montgomery, Joe Aiden, tyler—G. W. Clemmons.

ANAMOSA DEBATERS AT MAQUOKETA TONIGHT

Special to The Gazette. MAQUOKETA, Jan. 8.—The first debate of the season will be held in the high school auditorium here tonight when the Maquoketa high debating team will meet the Anamosa speakers.

Three representatives of each school will discuss the question "Resolved that the United States should join the league of nations." Eleanor Seely, Milton Tomask and Willard Stewart of the local school will support the affirmative side of the question.

Discontinued Patterns in Whittall Rugs at important savings

An opportunity that will be eagerly seized by every person who is anxious to obtain a Rug of the highest known make, at a very great reduction in price. The fact that patterns remaining have been listed by the mill as "discontinued" numbers does not take a whit from their Beauty, Quality or Value. It is important that you make your selection as early as possible. Sizes, collectively, range from 36x63 inches to 9x12 feet.

- Anglo Persians
-Anglo Kirmanis
-Teprac Wiltons
-Peerless Body Brussels

Accessories make the mode!

Do you fully appreciate the flattering attributes of a brightly colored Scarf? Do you realize that a matching Pocketbook and Belt are very new—that Hosiery and Gloves should match to be smart? Indeed, Accessories are the most important feature of the present mode!

House Frocks for working hours!

If cheerful color and comfortable design in clothes can make housework easier, then these House Frocks will. For they are intended to permit utmost freedom, to wash easily, and are shown in bright colors that will lure the sunshine indoors. Smartly styled of Gingham, embroidered attractively in contrast—bright or darker colors, as you prefer.



Killians' January Dispersal of Women's Silk and Wool Dresses

provides a type for every woman at dollars saved
\$18 \$28 \$48 \$68

- Dresses of Satin
-Dresses of Crepe Satin
-Dresses of Canton Crepe
-Also Crepe Back Satin
-Dresses of Wool Twill
-Dresses of Charmeen
-Dresses of Poiret Twill
-Dresses of Fine Flannel

Not a Coat reserved! Savings greater than expected!

Women's Winter Coats Sport - Dress - Tailored - Utility Models

\$17 \$37 \$57 \$77

and our finest and most exclusive Coats \$100
The Coats offered at \$17 and \$37 feature garments of elegance, fashioned of Cut Velours, Downy Wool, Furlaine, Bolivia, Novelties and Plushes. The Coats at \$57 and \$77 take in elegant models of queenly Fabrics, such as Lustrosa, Ormadale, Furlaine, Gerona, Gair de Laine and a wealth of Novelties. Each group is distinguished by fine trimmings, rich linings and the influence of painstaking workmanship.

The KILLIAN Cedar Rapids Co.

Two lots of men's and women's Brighton Outing Wear On sale on the Sub Floor:

\$1.39 and \$1.69

What does it matter if you find a slightly soiled spot here or a very small imperfection there, when you can buy such high grade garments for so low a price? They are traveling men's samples and bear the stamp of "slightly imperfect."

- Those for men: are developed from Blue, Pink, and Lavender Striped Outing-Night Shirts in the V-neck style with braid trimming.
For women: Gowns of White, Pink and Blue, Styled or fancy Outing, in regular and slip-over styles - with short or long sleeves.

New Faille Hats

Delightful spring innovations:

\$12.50 to \$18.50

Fascinatingly new! Captivating creations that afford the first intimate glimpse of the new spring mode! Each Hat is an exclusive pattern—fashioned and trimmed by hand.

- Of lustrous silk faille
-tailored with braid or
-novel lacing trim;
-Or richly appliqued

Quite as alluring as the new shapes and trimmings, are their rich colorings—vivid and daring. What woman can resist at least "trying on" these new arrivals?

Interest grows apace in Killians' January White Sale

- as thrifty housewives save!
-and replenish their linens
-with such wonderful values as:

70-in linen Damask, yd. \$1.39
Five desirable patterns are featured in this beautiful Silver Bleached Table Damask at the above White Sale price! A striking example of the savings afforded in high grade Linens at Killians!

18-inch Linen Napkins

Of excellent weight pure Irish Linen, fully Bleached and in a wide range of beautiful patterns. In the January White Sale, 12 for \$3.50

Pequot Tubing and Sheets

One of the most popular values of the White Sale - 81x99-inch Pequot Sheets at \$1.79; Pequot Tubing - 42 inches wide - per yard .45c

Colored Krinkle Spreads

Measuring 85x112 inches in size; shown with Blue, Rose, Lavender and Gold brocaded stripes alternating with Cream or all Cream. \$6.50

Colored Dress Linen

Featuring 38 of the newest shades for making fashionable spring frocks. 36 inches wide—preshrunk - of excellent quality, yard .80c

Special Doll Sale

for Missy's boudoir \$1.00

Dainty quaint Lady Dolls, with luxurious artificial hair in Auburn, Blonde, Black or White—complete with frame and head at this special price.



Lunch Cloth 98c

Measuring 52 inches square and stamped in effective designs on fine Cotton Art Cloth—some are hemstitched for crochet, whereas others are to be finished with lace edges.

Girls' fine Lingerie

of dainty wash fabrics: 50c to \$1.95

In this new assortment you'll find the loveliest of Undergarments for the tiny Miss of two years to those for Miss "Sweet Sixteen"—Combination Suits, Princess Slips, Drawers, Gowns and Panties.

- Bloomers, 50c to \$1.95
-Princess Slips, \$1.00 to \$1.95
-Dainty Gowns, \$1.00 to \$1.50

Smartly tailored garments or delightfully "fussy" with lace and embroidery trimmings—fashioned from sheer Nainsooks, Muslin and Fruit of the Loom.

Goldette Bloomers

Comfortable and slim-fitting:

\$1 and \$1.95

No woman ever knows how comfortable Bloomers can really be until she wears "Goldettes!" They are specially designed so that there is never a pull or strain, whether walking, riding or performing the hundreds of odd tasks of a housewife. For Beauty, Fit and Long Wear Goldette Bloomers boast none superior.

- English Satinette Bloomers \$1.95
-Windsor Crepe \$1.95
-Bloomers \$1.95
-Bloomers of sheer Nainsook \$1.00



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