

BACHELOR

NURSERY

NUMBER



"The Girl with the Whip," Anonymous.

Courtesy of American Folk Art Gallery N. Y. C.

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Price 35¢

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FRANKLIN

(Continued from page 25)

less than man needs woman. I have been assailed often enough on my views of sex and life, but I have never known of a great man—or a saint or a genius, for that matter—who was not endowed with unusual erotic powers. Sex is for the perpetuation of life, therefore a beautiful, a divinely sacred thing—not vile and shameful, as some would have us think!”

Everyone is familiar with *Poor Richard's* admonition to “Keep your eyes open before marriage, and half-shut afterward!” Yet Franklin not only approved of, but urged young men to marry.

“No young man should live and die in celibacy. The wheel of life that has rolled down to him from Adam without interruption should not stop with him. I would not have one dead unbearing branch in the genealogical tree of the Franklins. The Marriage state is, after all our jokes, the happiest.”

Ironically enough, Franklin's own marriage was none too fruitful. It is known that he had an illegitimate daughter who married one John Foxcroft, and his only son who lived to maturity, William Temple Franklin—later royal governor of New Jersey—was also illegitimate. This son, with whom Franklin was usually at odds—they took opposite sides during the War of Independence)—himself had an illegitimate son, named Temple Franklin, who was brought up by his illustrious grandfather, and acted as the latter's private secretary in Paris, when Franklin served as first American minister. My novel, *The Gentleman From America*, is the story of Franklin and this grandson, in Paris—and describes how young Temple Franklin himself begot an illegitimate son by a beautiful young married woman, Blanchette Caillot. This was a great source of remorse and grief to the grand old man, in his declining years; a happenstance of fate which he probably considered a divine punishment for his early sexual sins. Benjamin Franklin left no direct descendant, in time, to bear his name. (Temple's child by Blanchette Caillot died in infancy, and Temple himself left no other sons.)

Franklin was much concerned about the perils of bachelorhood, in his early career. In his early twenties, he drew up a moral code of thirteen rules with which to govern his life, one of which referred to chastity. “Rarely use venery,” young Franklin warned himself. “but for health or offspring. Never to dullness, weakness, or to the injury of your own or another's peace or reputation.” This code was written, incidentally, in the very year his son William Temple was born out of wedlock—just prior to his marriage to Deborah Reade, whose own husband had run away and left her.

In his *Autobiography*, he mentions: “That hard-to-be-governed passion of youth hurried me frequently into intrigues with low women who fell into my way, which, frankly, were attended with some expense and great inconvenience besides a continual risk to my health by a distemper, which of all things I dreaded, though by great good luck I escaped.” Yes, Franklin was human.

This same pre-occupation with the problems of the bachelor inspired his

Bachelor Presents (Continued from page 15)



Self Portrait

George Daniell

George Daniell, whose photographic work appears in this issue, likes New York harbor and the sound of a boat whistle better than any of the well-arranged rooms high above Central Park. Therefore an accordion I suppose affects him more than a full symphony; a freight boat has more appeal than a Leviathan. Still... champagne is good.

He tries to divide his time equally between writing, painting (which

dedicate in N. Y. His ambition is to travel slowly around the world in an un-passenger-like fashion (writing, painting, and candid camera-ing). His photographs reproduced in this issue were taken with a Leica.

Renato Toppo, whose photographic portraits appear regularly in *BACHELOR*, was born in Naples in 1904. Photography is natural to him for his father is one of the best photographers in Italy, making portraits of the aristocratic families of that country, and for thirty-five years the authorized photographer of the members of the Italian royal house.

Following a course in the Academy of Beautiful Arts in Naples where he studied painting and design, Mr. Toppo spent several years travelling about the continent.

In 1925 he came to the United States and since that time has specialized in photographic portraiture, his subjects including musical stars—Toscanini, the late George Gershwin, Lily Pons and other Metropolitan singers—and outstanding celebrities in art and the theater, as well as many figures in society.

Toppo is married to an American girl and they have two children. Just now his hobby is painting portraits and the making of photographic nudes, which, with his artistic sense, he hopes to develop to the point where they will be accorded the same high esteem now given to other forms of nude art.

William Sanderson, whose clever pen and ink sketch-

es have illustrated many *BACHELOR* stories (*PRE-NATAL INFLUENCE* in this issue) was born in New Jersey in 1905 but spent his early childhood in several European countries. He started drawing at the age of four and is still going strong.

Sanderson studied art—painting, etching, lithography, etc.—at the National Academy of Design and the Art Students' League in New York. At various times he has exhibited with the National Academy and the New York Society of Graphic Arts and not long ago held a one-man show of oils and water colors at the American Contemporary Artists' Gallery.

Quite aside from his serious paintings are his black and white illustrations and caricatures which have appeared in various publications. He, also, has illustrated a number of books.

Although a regular contributor to *BACHELOR*, he is not a bachelor himself. When not painting or drawing illustrations, he claims rifle shooting as his favorite sport. He likes cats and has a pet aversion to anything “arty.” His ambition is to make a trip to the Virgin Islands.

And we don't want you to miss *Pre-Natal Influence*. The author, S. Omar Barker, has been known to us for many years for his humorous writings, and has lately been compared in humor to the beloved late Will Rogers. Mr. Barker, comes from that great south west country, State of New Mexico—and writes with a first hand information about Eastern women who “can't take it” as well as he does about cattle ranches and other incidents which can happen only in his own locale.

William Sanderson

Self Portrait



Self Portrait

Renato Toppo

he has exhibited in New York), and photography, giving as many patches of spare time as possible to the theater, books, and sword-fishing (see photo).

Twenty-five years old, graduated from Yale in 1934, he was born in Yonkers, N. Y., raised in Yonkers, N. Y., christened and confirmed and hopes to die not too late, in Yonkers, N. Y.

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