

A Senator is always introduced as "Senator Davis", whether he is still in office or not.

General Introductions. The typical introduction, suitable not only on informal occasions but whenever two individuals are introduced, is the mere pronouncing of two names: "Mrs. Worldly, Mrs. Norman."

If the two names are said in the same tone of voice, it is not really apparent who is introduced to whom; but by accentuating the more important person's name, it can be made as clear as though the words "May I present" had been used.

The more important name is said with a slightly rising inflection; the secondary as a mere statement of fact.

A man is also introduced, "Mrs. Worldly—Mr. Norman". It is discourteous as well as in very bad taste to speak of one's husband as "Mr. Smith".

Although the name of a stranger or of the older or more notable person is properly said first, this is no longer considered of importance—except that a woman's name should be said before that of a man, unless the preposition "to" is used before the lady's name. For instance, if you find yourself saying Mr. Norman's name first, it is quite simple to make it polite by adding, "May I introduce you to Mrs. Worldly?" Or, with greater friendliness, "Mr. Norman, I should like to introduce you to Mrs. Worldly."

Formally, a man introduces another man to his wife. "Mr. Brown, may I present you to my wife?" or if this seems to you to imply that you are asking Mr. Brown's permission to present him to your wife, you can say, "Mr. Brown, I should like to introduce you to my wife."

A lady introduces her husband to acquaintances as "My husband." The two names of safety are "My husband" and "My wife", since they are proper no matter to whom you are talking. In business "Mr. Brown" and "Mrs. Brown" are quite correct.

Other Forms are Permissible. There are other forms of introductions, such as:

"Mrs. Parker, do you know Mrs. Norman?" or "Mrs. Parker, you know Mrs. Robinson, don't you?" or one may say, "Mrs. Robinson, have you met Mrs. Parker?" In introducing a gentleman to a lady, you may ask

Mr. Smith if he has met Mrs. Parker, but you must not ask Mrs. Parker if she has met Mr. Smith!

Forms to Avoid. Most people very much dislike being asked their names. To say "What is your name?" is abrupt and unflattering. If you want to know with whom you have been talking, you can almost always find a third person later and ask: "Who was the lady with the gray feather in her hat?" The next time you see her you can say, "How do you do, Mrs.—?" and call her properly by name.

Woman to Man at Dinner. When a woman finds herself next to an unknown man at a dinner party, she more likely than not merely talks to him without telling him her name. But if he introduces himself to her as "John Blank," she says, "I'm Mrs. Smith."

It is of course an unbreakable rule that all people who find themselves seated together at table accept the obligation of talking. To sit side by side without speaking is one of the greatest discourtesies.

At a dinner with place-cards, one may show one's card and say, "My name, what's yours?" while looking toward the stranger's card.

What to Say when Introduced. Under all possible circumstances the reply to an introduction is "How do you do?" It may be said gladly, casually, coolly, or unthinkingly, as the case may be, and it may be varied in pronunciation or emphasis. "How do you do?" "How d'you do?" "How d'you do-oo?"

It does sound limited, but so is holding one's knife and fork and so is drinking coffee after meals. And one can often say nothing at all—just smile!

True, the same smile can become equally monotonous. At all events, when Mr. Bachelor says, "Mrs. Worldly, may I present Mr. Struthers?" Mrs. Worldly says, "How do you do?" Struthers bows, and says nothing.

People who know better do not say, "Charmed" or "Pleased to meet you." When it is actually true, you can say, "I am very glad to meet you." But, you may never say, "I am pleased to make your acquaintance." "Make your acquaintance" is a bad phrase. On an occasion when you meet someone whom you have heard much about and have