DID YOU

EVER STOP

TO THINK

How Much

SatisfactioN

IS HAD IN READING

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THE END OF THE JOY RIDE By A. B. CHAPIN

In Confidence by Flo

Readers desiring a personal reply can address Miss Flo, in care of this newspaper

DECEMBER TALK TO JUNE BRIDES

Dear Miss Flo:

Before I married my husband he was the most wonderful lover in the world. Now it's hard to believe that he is the same man who rushed me to death—sometimes boring me with pretty attentions. Why now he never tells me that I am pretty, or that I look nice. He never thinks to bring me candy or flower, or taking me to a place of amusement—unless I ask him. And that's just the point—I want him to do those things without being asked. I tell him over and over again that he doesn't love me any more, and he just laughs and calls me a child. Then I get furious and we quarrel. After the quarrel I get a little attention for a day or so, then it starts all over again. What can I do to make him more attentive? BRIDE

* * *

The biggest disapopointment—the greatest disillusion of life—according to new brides—comes in that first year of marriage— the year of readjustment. The bride feels that her world is slipping from under her when she sees that lovely thing—HER romance with HIM—slipping away and her marriage becoming dull and uninteresting. She feels that she has been inveigled into matrimony under false pretenses. She argues that her husband led her to believe, from the ardor with which he wooed her, that he would be an eternal lover and would spend the most of his time telling her how beautiful and wonderful she is, and how he adores her.

My advice to you, little bride—and to all the brides in the world, is to repeat to yourself, when you begin to feel that your husband is not as attentive or as romantic as you would like him to be, that too often quoted, but nevertheless sapient, words of Grover Cleveland, who probably never expected them to be used in matrimony: "It's a condition and not a theory that confronts us."

Because it seems like a cold, hard, imaginative assertion, every bride will resent it. Nevertheless it brushes away with one gesture of common sense all the rose colored dreams and romances and fair tales of courtship, and leaves the bride facing the reality of marriage as it is.

Millions of women are making themselves miserable because their husbands never make love to them, never pay them a compliment, never give any sign that they still love them and want them, above all things, to be happy. That husbands should be as attentive after marriage as before, doesn't alter this aspect of the situation at all. If women would only abandon their theories about what matrimony should be, how husbands should act, and accept the truth that very few men are sentimentalists, they would save themselves a lot of needless suffering, tears, broken hearts, nervous prostration and put the divorce courts out of business.

Few men are sentimentalists, and it is a wise bride who faces that fact squarely.

Most men feel like fools when they are love making, and so they get the ordeal over with as quickly as possible.

When a man marries a woman he considers he has given all the proof necessary of his devotion

Otherwise, why should he undertake to be her shopping and board bill.

And, of course, having married her, she should realize that he isn't going to talk about it all the time.

The wise bride handles her husband with tact and diplomacy, rather than arguing and quarreling over his seemingly indifference.

She soon realizes that attention she gets by tears and quarrels or hysterics are not worth while. She should try to be enough of a philosopher to take her husband as he is—good, kind, and generous. She should try to be happy and contented even though he is a dumb lover. She should realize that his demonstrations of love are in the form of kindness—and checks. Though she may feel starved emotionally she is sure of the more substantial and necessary things of life.

And as a last reminder: "It's a condition and not a theory that confronts us." It is the woman who can forget how she would like it to be—and deals with it as it is, that makes a success of marriage.

ANSWER TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

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TCB

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