The Marriage Problem

By A. HAMILTON GIBBS
Author of "Soundings," "Gun Fodder," etc.

Woman Has Dropped the Fundamentalism of Her Attitude Toward Men

NOW that we have conquered the various elements—air, water, time and space—we are inclined to be a little cocky and utter in capital letters about progress, culture and civilization. We dash up to the summit of our dunghill and crow loudly of airplanes, radio and wireless. We pat each other on the back because the last word in education, psychology and science is now within reach of the multitude.

The last word? The first word is all we have discovered. Science makes a new beginning every day. Psychology is still a series of stuttering definitions. Education is so young that it has not yet got its wisdom teeth. And with them all the silent, scarcely perceived shifting of the groundwork of human relationships goes on with the irresistible slow creep of an avalanche.

Moslem women are unveiling—waking up after a thousand and one nights. Western women have dropped the Victorian antimacassar and with it the fundamentalism of their attitude toward men. They are stretching their economic muscles, exchanging the rolling pin for the walking stick, the drawing-room sofa for the Supreme court bench. To paraphrase Anatole France, it is the revolt of the Angels.

A hundred years ago marriage was the be-all and end-all of a woman's life. She was bred for it, trained for it, sold off by her fond mamma to the highest bidder, a chattel, a child-machine, who became in her turn the auctioneer.

To her then divorce was ruin. It placed her beyond the pale. She was damned socially and, of course, morally. She was declasse, an outcast.

Today with a prior "My God" we look in the newspaper at the photograph of the woman who is enjoying her sixth husband. She is the captain of her soul, whether we believe it will be damned or not!

Today we are facing the fact that a woman is no longer afraid to leave a husband. She is no longer dependent on his support. She has made the great discovery that she can support herself. She has taken the economic weapon with which she has been clubbed so long and has chucked it back at him like a boomerang. The shackles of fear are no longer round her ankles. She has stepped forth, free!

And tomorrow, a hundred years hence? The present emotional antagonism will have disappeared. The awkward gestures of newly found liberty, of trying the sprouting wings, will have acquired rhythm and grace.

Today she has developed from a chattel into an antagonist. Tomorrow she will be a partner, an equal sharer of burdens and rewards, spiritual as well as physical.

Of course, the dishwasher will survive as a type just so long as there remains a man in whom that age-old tradition has not been stamped out. But this is an age when our ears are already familiar with the splashing sound of traditions being dropped overboard. The new generation has a lofty contempt for the old. It refuses anything that is accepted. It is a generation of restless experiment, fearless of consequences.

And just as we look back with a tolerant smile at those dark ages, so short a while ago, when the law ordained that a man might not kiss his wife on Sunday, so will they look back at where we are today in our so-called enlightenment, which to them will seem Stygian darkness.

The present hypocrisy of marriage will be intolerable. There will be no law or public opinion to force a woman to go on living with a husband when detestation is mutual. Instead of being a matter of perjury and smart lawyers, divorce will be as readily accessible as a 2-cent stamp.

If a wife has no money of her own she will not longer be in the position of accepting tips, as she is today, however graciously they may be offered. That sanctified lie, "with all my worldly goods I thee endow," will have been transformed into truth. Nor will any woman be a child-machine. Eugenics will have evolved from a wild and rather shocking theory into a fait accompli.

In other words, man and woman, in their marriage relationship, will look at each other with different eyes, as partners and equals, morally, physically and economically. Passion, of course, will always be present; but they will have won their way to a far saner solution of its consequences than is dreamed of in our present philosophy.

The pronouncement has been made that we are headed for the matriarchal system. It may be so, but if civilization is to endure, then man and woman have got to stand shoulder to shoulder, thinking alike, working together, equals, equals.

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Chestertown, Maryland



OPTOMETRIST
CHESTERTOWN, MD.
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NEWS ITEMS IN AND AROUND GALENA

Mrs. Harry Smith and son, Harry, Jr., of Salisbury, Md., and Miss Selma Scotten returned home to the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Scotten for a few days visit.

Mr. Meritt Haley, of Still Pond, visited at the home of his mother, Mrs. John Betz.

Mr. and Mrs. Richardson Cole and children, of Chevy Chase, Md., spent the past week end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Wilson.

Miss Margaret Williams, of Betterton, Md., spent a few days last week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Williams.

Mr. and Mrs. Errol Mulford, of Hockessan, Del., spent last Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Mulford.

Mrs. Elmer Jarman and Mr. and Mrs. Victor Stevens, of Baltimore, Md., spent a few days in Rehobeth, Del.

Miss Helen George, of Kimblesville, Pa., Miss Mary Buckworth, of Chesapeake City, spent a few days last week with the latter's cousin, Mrs. Harold Haley.

Misses Nellie Dempsey, Kathyrn Thornton, Carrie Dempsey and Laura Richardson, Reba Eisenbery spent a few days last week in Asbury Park, N. J.

Mrs. Keith Cochran, Sr., Mrs. Randolph Langlors were entertained at Luncheon last Tuesday at the home of Mrs. Keith Cochran, Jr., in Wilmington, Del.

Mrs. Van S. Ahern entertained at Luncheon last Friday, the following guests, Mrs. Randolph Langler's, of Denver, Col., Mrs. Hudson McCauley of Dagsboro, Del., and Miss Alice Prettyman.

Mrs. Belle Murphy, of Philadelphia, Pa., is visiting Mrs. Thomas Caldwell.

Mrs. Earle Gilfillan and daughter, Miss Dorthea left on Sunday for a trip to Boston, Mass., sponsered by University of Delaware.

Miss Mary Cruickshank, of near Cecilton, Md., spent a few days with her sister, Mrs. J. E. Ireland.

Mr. and Mrs. John Betz are receiving congratulations upon the birth of a daughter last Thursday, Aug. 20.

Mrs. Lucy Bond and son, John, of Port Deposit, Md., spent last Sunday with her sister, Mrs. J. E. Ireland.

Mrs. Amelia Shelton has returned to her daughters, Mrs. John Betz after spending a few weeks with her son and daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Vansant spent the last week end with their daughter, Mrs. Terry Mitchell in Waynesboro, Pa.

Messrs. Wm. Bahder, Raymond Van-Culen, of Germantown, Pa., were week end guests last week of Miss Alice Prettyman and Mrs. Hudson McCauley the latter is a guest of Miss Prettyman.

Mr. William Johnson, of Philadelphia, spent the past week end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Johnson.

Mrs. Van S. Ahern left on Thursday to spend a few days at Virginia Beach, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. George Johnston are spendng this week with their daughter, Mrs. Lawrence Reed in Wilmington, Del.

Mr. and Mrs. George Jones, Jr., and family, Mr. James Mulford, Miss Elizabeth Jones visited the latters father, Dr. George R. Jones who is a patient in the Homeopathic Hospital Wilmington, Del., last Sunday.

Mrs. Margaret Rodgers, of Philadelphia, Pa., returned to her home last Thursday after spending a week with Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hicks.

Mr. and Mrs. Willam Statts and he" son, Robert Kent, of Wilmington, Del., visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bolton, last Sunday.

Mr. Anthony Murray, of Philadelphia, Pa., was a week end guest of Mr. John Naylor, of near town.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Jefferes, of Wilmington, Del., were Sunday guests of Mrs. Linda Walls last Sunday.

Mr. Holden Ireland, of near Chesapeake City, Md., visited relatives in town last week.

Mrs. Walter Gale is spending this week with her daughter, Mrs. Clement Davidson, near Sassafras, Md.

Mr. Alfred Walsh, Miss Genevieve Cochran spent last Sunday at Rehoboth, Del.

Doll Used in Stone Age

The modern doll traces its ancestry back 25,000 years to the Stone age when images were fashioned to appease the gods of fire, thunder and rain.

Key to Castle of Dreams

"Wealth," said Hi Ho, the sage of Chinatown, "is the golden key to youth's Castle of Dreams, where too often abide sad memory specters."

Curtains Covered Beds

Early beds were completely concealed by their curtains; the structural features were first exposed soon after the second quarter of the Eighteenth century.

First Pure Food Law

Michigan was the first to have a pure food law similar to the later federal law. It was passed in 1895. Wisconsin passed a similar statute three years later.

NEWS ITEMS IN AND AROUND STILL POND

Qute a number of the Odd Fellows, Rebekah's and their families enjoyed the picnic which was held at Tolchester last Wednesday afternoon.

Mr. Lester Coleman, of Baltimore, spent last Wednesday with relatives here.

Mr. Clarence Ford returned home from the hospital in Baltimore on Friday. He is having special treatment.

Mrs. Elsie Jarvis, of Wilmington, visited with Mr. and Mrs. John Jarvis last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Linwood Severson, of Baltmore, has returned home after spending last week with his grandmother, Mrs. Annie Warren. Mrs. Warren returned home with him for a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Reed, of Wilmington, visited with Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Atwell last Wednesday.

Mrs. Bird, of Charlotte, N. C., was the guest of Miss Louisa Travers last week.

The Misses Phoebe and Joan Robinson, of Westminster are visiting with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. William Medders.

Mr. Harry Phillippi, Sr., and son, Harry, daughter, Alvina and friend and Mrs. Calvin Coleman and daughter, Doris, of Baltimore, were guests of Mrs. Jennie Boulden and Miss Pearl Coleman on Sunday.

Miss Eva Busick, of Baltimore, is the guest of Miss Edna Wroth and Miss Lily Parrott this week.

Mr. O. H. Carrington, of Philadelphia, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Carrington and son, Allen, of Washington, visited with friends here over the week end.

Miss Louise Toulson, of Granogue, Del., spent Sunday and Monday with her sister, Mrs. William Clark .

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ford are visiting in New York with their daughter this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Faune and daughter, Maron of Philadelphia spent part of last week with Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Harper.

Mrs. Thomas Mann who has been on the sick list is much improved.

A surprise birthday dinner was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Jarvis on Sunday in honor of her mother, Mrs. Emma Thompson. Those present were: Mr. Harlem, Mr. Carlton Thompson, of Philadelphia, Mr. and Mrs. Jewell Thopson and family, of Rock Hall, Mr. and Mrs. William Thompson, of Smithville, Mr. Theodore Jewell of Chestertown, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ford and son, Fredrick, of Florida, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Thompson and daughter, Barbara.

Mrs. F. B. Harper is spending a few days this week with her sister, Mr. and Mrs. Bayard Vandegrift, of Wilmington.

Miss Hope Marie Jones and Miss Audrey May Harper are among those who are attending the Kent and Queen Anne's County Second Annual 4-H Camp whch is held on the Huntingfield Farm near Rock Hall this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Katz, of Collingswood, N. J., and Mr. and Mrs. William Hampton, of Berlin, N. J., were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Dittman.

Miss Jean Davis and friend, Miss Anita Kuhl, of Baltimore, are spending this week with ohn Ben and Wesley Robinson of near town.

Mr. Charles Sparks, of Glen Mills, Pa., and Miss Jean McKay, of Lima, Pa., spent part of last week and the week end with Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Haddaway.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bidwell spent Monday in Philadelphia.

Miss Dora Haddaway spent past of last week with Miss Ellen Davis, of Rock Hall.

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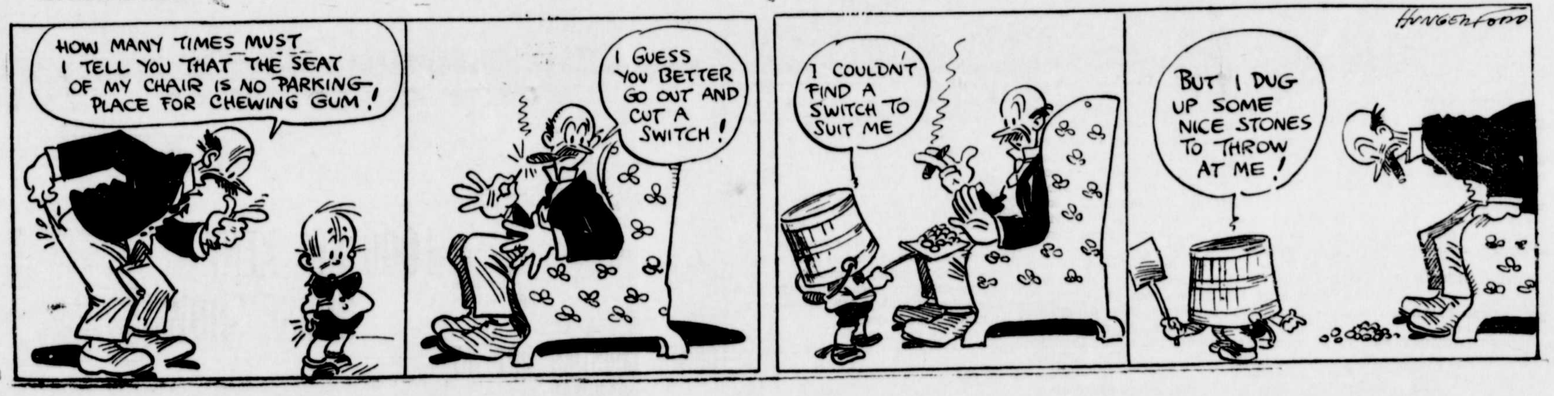
FOR THOSE WHO REMAIN

When death visits a home, the first concern is to perform the last service to the loved one in a becoming manner. What ever is done must express all the reverance and affection that is felt at such a time. But in addition to this a further responsibilty rests upon the funeral director. It is his privilege and duty to lessen as far as lies with in his power, the burdens laid upon those who remain. By countless little acts of thoughtfulness he can make the way easier for them.

We consider this part of our work as important as any other. Our highest aim is to have our patrons look upon us as trusted friends, ready and anxious to render sympathetic assistance to those who remain behind.

B. R. FELLOWS,
ar27 Funeral Director.
Phone 3 Still Pond, Md.

SNOODLES — *By Cy Hungerford*



"MICKY" AND HIS GANG — *By Sam Iger*



DOROTHY DARNIT

