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Mondays and Thursdays

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TWO PREACHERS ON COMPANIONATE MARRIAGE.

This writer has had what seems to him the rather odd experience of hearing companionate marriage denounced from the pulpit where several weeks before he heard it referred to as not far-fetched when present moral conditions are taken into consideration.

Both preachers were sincere men, both had in mind the welfare of their listeners. Mothers and fathers, as well as preachers, are taking both sides of Judge Lindsey's strange proposal and the preacher, usually is a parent.

While this writer believes it may have been unwise for any preacher to make any statement that could be twisted into a semi-endorsement of companionate marriage, yet he can see the side of the preacher who failed to denounce this new proposal that would revolutionize our homes.

If we are to have companionate marriage without sanction of law, which is what moralists tell us we have, it is possible to believe that sanction of law would be an improvement, but this writer finds two serious objections to legalizing the immorality which both sides say exists.

The first objection is that to throw the cloak of legal respectability around an act that is morally wrong is to admit defeat in our attempt to cure the condition.

The second objection is that legal sanction for what is indefensible morally would be merely fuel for the flames. The law could not make the offense less in the eyes of the One who judges our morals, yet it is easy to believe making the marriage relation a fleeting legal thing of an hour, a day, a week or a month, would make it popular with those who now hesitate to become law breakers and wish to stand uprightly before the world.

Preachers and parents do not advocate making barter in whisky legal merely because so few strictly obey the law, yet violations of the prohibition laws are many times more numerous than violations of the laws governing the sex relations.

With fear of the law and fear of falling in the estimation of one's fellows removed, the moral conditions of which we complain would become more aggravated, instead of improved, the fall of the home would become complete. We need not go far for proof of this statement. Our easy divorce laws already have made of marriage, the most sacred of human relations, a sort of fly-by-night arrangement not greatly different from Lindsey's proposal for companionate marriage. The preacher who said that Lindsey's proposal is not far-fetched probably believed the divorce courts are already doing what the Denver judge proposes to make a little easier.

Lindsey's proposal contemplates

that there shall be no children until the wedded couple shall become certain that the match is a satisfactory one. The majority of young married couples need no added encouragement toward race suicide, but it is this writer's belief that without children there will be lacking the most potent factor in drawing a couple together, the most potent factor in developing devotion for each other, the most potent factor in building the homes which must be the foundation for America of the future. Without children each party to the marriage contract will be free to go his or her way, to seek other companions, to remain out of the home where love might develop and make the match a happy one. Doing away with the child is a direct invitation to failure of the marital contract.

On the other hand, the relations of the sexes have become such during the past decade that companionate marriage would offer little new, as many preachers have said. Many of the privileges that should be those of married couples only are enjoyed by couples who may not be even thinking of marriage, and these are in every stratum of society. To these marriage offers little new in experience, little of novelty, the rights and privileges are too easy, too common, to longer act as a magnet to draw couples to the hymeneal altar.

Companionate marriage will not right that condition. Only a new view of life, a new conception of the proper relations of the sexes, a revitalized regard for the sacredness of marriage, a straining for observance of the old virtues, a new seriousness on the part of the people, less worship of the god jazz, a new modesty and a new reserve on the part of the feminine, renunciation by the male of the belief that the feminine is fair prey, can bring about the change that both those who oppose and endorse companionate marriage profess to wish to bring about.

In preparing in advance for future possibilities, European scientists have discovered that certain kinds of wood may be made palatable. In that kind of preparedness America is way ahead of Europe, thanks to our breakfast food manufacturers.

"Artificial Humans to Be Product of the Future," a headline tells us. Why look to the future? Don't we now have the bobbed-haired and bobbed-skirted flapper and the kid with the Yale bags?

A girl doesn't understand why it is that when a man takes her to her first baseball game he tries to get off in a corner away from their acquaintances.

A campaign to prevent Scotchmen from giving to beggars, has been started at Edinburgh. We predict that the movement will be an unqualified success.

All of us give more or less of our moral support to reforms until someone starts something that is convenient to us.

A government job has spoiled many a man for a useful citizen.

W. O. W., and Woodcraft Install.
(Crowded out of Monday's issue.)
The W. O. W. and Neighbors of Woodcraft lodges held joint installation of officers Friday night. More than 100 were present and following installation a program was given, old-fashioned dancing was enjoyed and a banquet was served.

Officers of the W. O. W. are: L. W. McKibben, C. C.; J. A. Wikoff, A. L.; Fred Bressler, clerk; A. E. Burrows, banker; Bert Hatch, escort; W. L. Hubbard, secretary; Frank Porter, watchman; Mike Koberbeck, C. H. VanDenburg and J. W. Veatch, managers; Dr. C. E. Frost and Dr. D. A. Forbes, physicians; S. K. Adams, past council commander. D. A. Forbes was installing officer.

Officers of the Neighbors of Woodcraft are: Mrs. Mabel Wilson, past guardian; Mrs. Lena Sears, guardian; Mrs. Elsie Curran, adviser; Mrs. Katie Burrows, magician; Mrs. Mabel Dixon, clerk; Mrs. Mae Ostrander, banker; Miss Doris Lebow, captain of guards; Mary Gillispie, attendant; Miss Martha Cooley, flag bearer; Mrs. Louisa Bartels, correspondent; Mrs. Eva Hatch, Mrs. Minnie Willits and Mrs. Rosa Curran, managers; Mrs. Viola Walker, inner sentinel; Osha Webb, outer sentinel; Dr. C. E. Frost and Dr. D. A. Forbes, physicians. Mrs. Viola Walker was installing officer.

Had First Balloon Idea
Joseph Michael Montgolfier was the inventor of air balloons. He discovered that a balloon, with a car attached, could be kept suspended by a supply of heated air. His brother, Jacques Etienne, collaborated with him in his scientific pursuits and participated with him in his first experiments in 1783.

Reaching the Heart
A heart-to-heart talk is one of those things that generally result in taking all the heart out of you.

Literature of China Preserved in Memory

Chen Hwang-ti, emperor of China, 220-221 B. C., evidently was a man with opinions of his own plus an exaggerated reverence for "the good old times." He issued an edict that all books on the realm were to be burned excepting those treating on medicine, divination and husbandry. This included all the writings of Confucius. It was further ordered that anyone who mentioned the Book of History or the Book of Odes (the Chinese classics) is said to have been to death.

This is said to be the most drastic and comprehensive suppression of a literature. While the destruction of books was enormous, a few copies of the most treasured volumes were preserved. According to one tradition, however, a large number of works were saved only through the marvelous memories of public reciters. Even today it is said that if the same literary tragedy should be enacted, thousands of Chinese could be found who could rewrite from memory not only the text, but commentaries of their nine classical works.

Dragon-Fly a Marvel of the Insect World

The dragon-fly is not one of those beings who have eyes and see not. When this insect looks at you he sees you well—71,000 of you.

This most wonderful organ of vision, though no larger than a pin's head, has facets upon the lens of the eye and these facets have been counted as high as 17,000, each one more perfect than any side of a diamond fashioned by the hand of man.

The dragon-fly usually is found near water, probably the stream whence it first emerged, says London Tit-Bits. Its wings, which are the most exquisite and transparent gauze move with incredible rapidity. It is the swallow among insects, and so swift is its flight, and so keen its vision, that it will recognize, follow, and catch on the wing the tiniest prey.

It can fly backward or forwards and turn at a right angle at top speed. Like the swallow, too, its flight seems tireless, and it is seldom seen to alight.

English Methuselah

Methuselah is reputed to have lived to be nine hundred and sixty-nine years old, but there are no documented instances as reliable as that. According to the parish register of St. Leonard's, Shore-ditch, England, the oldest man of modern times was Thomas Carn who was born in 1381, outlived many sovereigns and died in Queen Elizabeth's reign in 1588. In 1724 Petrarch Chartan died at the reputed age of one hundred and eighty-five, while Henry Jenkins, who remembered of going as a boy of twelve with a load of arrows to be used in the battle of Flodden Field, died in England in 1970 when he was one hundred and sixty-nine years old. Jonas Surington of Bergen, Norway, lived to be one hundred and fifty-nine. Perhaps the oldest man living is Zoro Agha, a Kurd by birth, and a porter in Constantinople since about 1800. He has been a widower four times, can cite unimpeachable records to show that he was one hundred and fifty on his last birthday anniversary.—Kansas City Times.

Poor Spelling Common

Poor handwriting and incorrect spelling are faults not confined to the poor and ill-educated, asserts Will West in Liberty. "As for styles of writing, I say that bad handwriting, like (chanel) blue and reptile leather, is very good this year. The better the financial circumstances of the writer, the worse it seems, is the scrawl."

"Spelling—let's be kind," the writer continues, "but even the 'grand dame' stoops to payel for 'paid.' 'Arclets' are at all invariably 'arties,' while for 'leggings' the more Chaucerian 'leggins' is usual. With 'hats' and 'shoes' and similar monosyllables most women do well, but 'sequins' become 'sequences' and 'sneds' is reproduced as 'swede.'"

His Early Training

Two men had met on the beach at Shrinopsis. Both were attired in swimming costume, and the conversation turned toward this sport. After a few remarks the elder man said:

"I'll race you to the end of the pier and back."

"Right you are," agreed the other, who was a professional at the game. "Bet you ten bob I win."

They plunged into the surf, and the professional swimmer was badly beaten.

"My stars!" he exclaimed. "Where did you learn to swim?"

"Me?" said the other, "I used to be a newsboy in Venice."—Exchange.

Vegetable Maturity

According to a publication issued by the Department of Agriculture it requires from 60 to 80 days for beets to mature, from 70 to 100 days for carrots, 20 to 140 for radishes, 125 to 160 for parsnips, 120 to 150 for onions grown from seed and 60 to 120 for onions grown from sets, 100 to 140 for peppers, 80 to 125 for tomatoes, 60 to 80 for lettuce, 40 to 80 for peas, 100 to 120 for watermelons, and 120 to 150 for celery.

Know Your Subject

Some people do a lot of talking in order to explain what they have been talking about. The trouble lies in undertaking to talk about what one has not sufficiently known. Better know more and talk less.—Grit.

Moliere Unhappy in His Choice of Mate

Moliere, the great French dramatist, was for a long time in love with Jeanne Le Jarry, who had been engaged to him on his provincial tour, but when he married his bride was Armande, a younger sister of Jeanne.

Armande was twenty years old and Moliere was forty. She was an actress like her sister, and while she was fascinating, she was not exactly beautiful. Though it is difficult to get at the truth of Moliere's married life, it is known that Moliere was not very happy. Undoubtedly his wife aroused jealousy by her eagerness for admiration and her enjoyment of flattery.

But whether he had deep reason for jealousy, it is impossible to say, though many biographers have attacked Armande's character. "Moliere's children were born, but Moliere and his wife failed to get on well together and finally they separated. They were reunited, shortly before the dramatist's death. The night of February 17, 1673, he struggled through a performance at the theater and then was sent home desperately ill before his wife could reach his bedside he was dead.—Detroit News.

Chinese Wall Paper of Exquisite Design

There must be in various parts of England a good deal of old Chinese wall paper such as that which the duke of Atholl recently sold at Sotheby's.

In the eighteenth century a lot of this wonderfully painted wall paper was brought from China for decorating houses, and possibly some of it has been stored away and never used, as in the case of the 24 rolls which the duke has just sold. These were unrolled, and found just as they came from the east years ago. This Chinese paper is very beautiful, mostly with long-tailed pheasants and other brilliantly hued birds interspersed among bright flowers and green foliage, and the colors remain remarkably fresh and unfaded after being hung a century.

It is said that at Logie house, Aberdeenshire, the seat of Col. George Milne, there is some of this exquisite Oriental wall paper as good as ever it was.

A Rapid Sightseer

All records for rapid sightseeing were beaten recently when a visitor from Detroit did 1,000 pictures in the National gallery, London, representing six centuries of paintings, in 27 minutes, setting by seven minutes the previous record made in 1925 by a native of Buffalo.

The visitor arrived at 12:25 with a luncheon appointment at one o'clock. Since ten o'clock he had visited the Tower, the Monument, the Guildhall and St. Paul's cathedral. He had also done a little shopping in the Strand and, as he remarked, he would like to see the afternoon free for visits to the British and South Kensington museums and the Wallace collection.—From the Continental Edition of the London Daily Mail.

Qualified Invitation

During a purity campaign in London a meeting was arranged to be held at the City temple, of which Doctor Parker, the famous preacher, was then minister, relates Bramwell Booth in his "Echoes and Memories." Some question arose as to whether a certain labor leader, at that time a bold and active figure, should be asked to speak. He had been already approached and had expressed his willingness to come—"but, mind, none of your d-d religion." Some one put it to Doctor Parker at last definitely whether the labor leader should be invited.

"Oh, let him come," was the doctor's reply; "and then in his deep earnestness: 'Yes, let him come, but, mind, none of his d-d infidelity!'"—Kansas City Star.

Easy to Please

Mr. Merryweather had bought a new pair of shoes through the post, when they arrived he was entertaining a bachelor friend.

"You won't mind if I try these on now?" he asked his visitor, and proceeded to undo the parcel.

He slipped his foot into one of the shoes, only to withdraw it with a howl of pain. There was a large nail sticking up in the heel.

"You'll send them back at once, of course?" said the visitor.

"No," replied Merryweather, "I don't think so. The nail was probably put there to keep one's foot from sliding forwards."—London Answers.

"Everyman" in a Barn

The fifteenth century morality play "Everyman" was produced in a strange environment one afternoon recently. Its theater was a barn—the "tithie barn" at Great Coxwell, England, a structure reared long ago by builders who can scarcely have dreamed that it would ever be put to use such as this. In its vastness the little barn resembles, however, a cathedral. The dim splendor and hush conspired to create an appropriate atmosphere.—New York Times.

Interested in Milling

Junior was visiting his grand parents at the farm and all activities at the dairy barn were interesting to him.

He was getting a supply of milk from his grandmother at milking time, and she was not hurrying as much as Junior felt that she should.

"Please hurry, grandma," he begged. "I want to see them milk, and I must get back; they had the cows all 'parked' when I left."

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