

What is Happening to Marriage?



MRS. VIRGINIA BLAIR REEVES WARNER, THE "KISSLESS BRIDE."

BY ETHEL THURSTON.

YOU could scarcely blame a cynic for believing that the institution of marriage was in a rather troubled situation. So many extraordinary things are happening!

For example, there was the case of the "kissless bride," Virginia Blair Reeves is a stepdaughter of Commander Archibald P. Parsons of the Philadelphia navy yard. She made her debut in Philadelphia, and being a pretty girl, was an interesting and popular social figure.

Then she met Henry H. Warner at a house party in Montclair, N. J. There was a quick courtship, a special dispensation from Mr. Lavelle and a marriage by the priest of St. Andrew's church.

There the romance stopped. The marriage was kept secret. And now it has been annulled because Warner did not make love. The couple saw each other a few times. They discussed house-keeping. But Warner could not, it seems, be brought to the point of recognizing himself as really married.

"Where did you spend your hours with your husband?" Mrs. Warner was asked.

"In the parlor," she replied. "Nowhere else. I never even took walks with him. Once I saw him in the Powhatan hotel in Washington, where my parents were staying, but that was in the lobby. We met again at Chevy Chase club, near Washington, and we had breakfast there. Father and mother knew nothing of our marriage."

The day came when the girl who was married and yet was no wife felt obliged to inform her husband that her personal and social position had become intolerable. Then the crash, the secret trial and the annulment.

This, in spite of flippant allusions to the "kissless bride," was somewhat of a tragedy in a girl's life. Tragic in another way was the case of Dr. William C. Woolsey. Dr. Woolsey's wife committed suicide while he was serving in a medical corps in France. She shot herself in the mouth. On his return from France Dr. Woolsey married again. He appeared to be happy. His career in his profession, both here and in France, had been successful. Bride and bridegroom came to their Brooklyn, N. Y., home after a two weeks' wedding trip. Mrs. Woolsey went to her husband's office the day after their return. He was not in the front room, where he treated his patients. Going to the doctor's retiring room, she failed

Here Is the "Kissless Bride,"
Who Says Her Husband
Never Made Love—

Then the Woman Who Likes
Cats Better Than She
Does Her Husband—

The Bridegroom Who
Killed Himself at the
End of Wedding Trip.

And the Cave Man Who
Came to Grief.

to see him until she opened the door of a clothes closet. Her husband's body then fell at her feet.

Stricken with horror, the bride ran out of the room and had the superintendent telephone to Dr. Sidney Smith, a friend of Dr. Woolsey. When Dr. Smith arrived he said Dr. Woolsey had been dead several hours. By going into the closet and closing the door behind him he had muffled the report of his revolver, which had not been heard in the building. He had killed himself in precisely the manner in which his first wife had ended her life.

Even more astounding is the tragedy of Arthur Niles Jr., former naval ensign, Princeton graduate, who killed himself the day after his marriage to a beautiful girl. There may be a suspicion of an explanation for Dr. Woolsey's end (psychologists may turn to the first wife), but the Niles mystery is without a hint of explanation.

Let us turn to comedy for relief, even if the comedy is often just as perplexing. Take the remarkable instance of Mrs. Harry Wells, who appeared in court with her husband. Mrs. Wells insisted that her husband was not behaving properly. Her husband was rather a pathetic figure as he revealed to the court that the whole trouble began with Mrs. Wells' cats. She took them to bed with her. Did not the judge think this an unpardonable offense, and one likely to alienate a husband? The judge looked at Mrs. Wells. Mrs. Wells admitted that she liked her cats better than her husband. Her cats, she said, stayed at home nights.

Well, the upshot of this was that the

judge advised Wells to hire a furnished room and let Mrs. Wells remain comfortably alone with her cats. Husband and wife finally agreed to this plan.

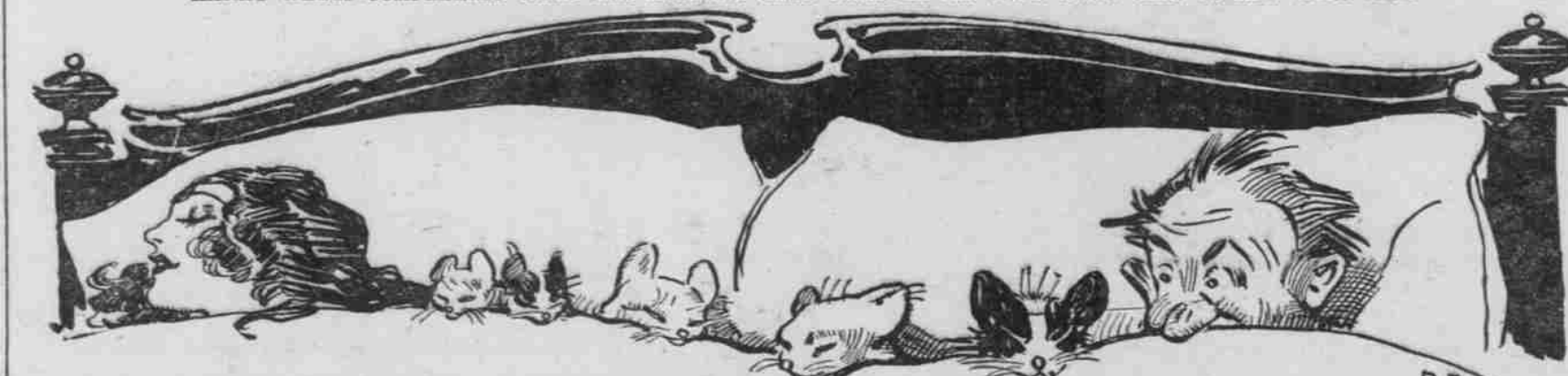
Perhaps I should mention the case of Mrs. Estelle Matta of San Francisco, who accused her husband of beating her, but who refused alimony when the separation came.

"It is the custom of this court to award \$50 for each blow," said Judge Graham. "I should judge that \$2000 in a lump sum would be equitable in your case."

"I do not want any alimony," said Mrs. Matta. "My husband claims that he killed 25 Germans while he was serving in France, and I do not doubt it from the way he treated me. He sure is a rough man. I would consider it a crime if I, an American woman, demanded alimony from a man who had killed 25 Germans."

Speaking of alimony, here is Lyman B. Kendall. When he was divorced from Nellie Ballentine he settled on her property worth \$4,500,000 an income of \$100,000 a year. This is how the Wall street broker got the title of the "alimony king." Perhaps it was not astonishing—and yet cynics will say that it was—that when he married in Thomaston, Ga., Miss Betty Lee, singer and actress, the first Mrs. Kendall said very kind things and actually gave Miss Lee (whose real name I understand to be Elizabeth Coyle) her hearty blessing. It was the first Mrs. Kendall who said at the time she divorced her husband, "I could never have done it except that I felt it was what Lyman wanted."

HARRY WELLS COMPLAINED THAT THE TROUBLE CAME BECAUSE HIS WIFE TOOK CATS TO BED WITH HER.



DENIZENS OF DEEP NAMED FOR PECULIARITY OF HABIT

Appearance, Shape, Color, Size and Physical Movement Also Used as Basis for Denoting Fish Specimens—Whale Is Known as Monster.

WHILE their cry or note has suggested names for many of the birds, fishes are mute creatures, and their names are unconnected with any sound. They are named mostly from some peculiarity of appearance in shape, color, or other physical movement, habit or disposition, according to ichthyologists.

The whale is the "monster" fish; the walrus (an amphibian) is the whale-horse, and the narwhal the "corpse" whale (nar'a dead body), from its pallid appearance. The shark is the "searcher," or prowler for food, from

its voracity (Fr. cher-cher). The tunny is the "runner" or darter, well-known in Mediterranean waters (Gr. thunnos). The grampus is the great fish (grandis piscis); the octopus the eight-footer; and the porpoise the pork or pig fish, from its fat appearance.

The salmon is the jumper (from the Latin verb, salto, I leap), and the grayling is the little gray fish of the salmon kind. The trout is the snibbler; the pike is the picker, from its sharp-pointed jaws, and the crab the scratcher, from its claws.

The cod is the pillow fish, from its rounded shape; the turbot, from its rhomboidal spindle shape, is so named from turbo, a spindle; the sole is so called from its resemblance to the flat of the foot; the skate is probably the squat fish, and the mackerel the spotted fish (macula, a spot).

New Shirtwaist Dress Is Useful in Summer.

Tunic Blouse or Simply Made Skirt May Be Worn Together or With Other Raiment.

NEW shirtwaist dresses, as they are called, are in two parts; the simple skirt and a tunic blouse that may be worn over or under the skirt belt. The blouse may accompany another skirt, if one chooses, or the skirt be worn with other blouses. A most useful summer costume, this, and a valuable addition to any vacation wardrobe.

One of these shirtwaist dresses is of

sprigged dimity, another dainty model is of organdy—in dark blue with many tucks. Tucked separate skirts of blue organdy, by the way, are being worn with white blouses this summer and are very cool and light for warm days.

Tennis sweaters are very short, reaching scarcely below the waistline and the lower part of the sweater is ribbed so that it clings to the figure in trim effect. More formal sweaters, which add the last touch of smartness to a smart silk skirt and georgette blouse costume are in hip length and are tied in with a knotted girdle to give graceful lines. There are pockets on these longer sweaters but no woman is foolish enough to carry things in sweater pockets any more. Even a small purse or a handkerchief weighs



Do you wonder that people get confused ideas about marriage?

One man seems to have heard that the thing to do to be fully admired, really to fascinate women, was to "treat 'em rough." Even women have been known to advance theories like that. Anyway, John E. Carey took Mrs. Helen C. Waterman out of her Brooklyn apartment in her nightgown and carried her in a taxicab to his apartment in Manhattan. This is how they came to call him the "cave man." Also this is why he was arrested on a charge of burglary and abduction. He was to have been tried before County Judge McDermott, but he had disappeared, forfeiting his bail.

Last you should become pessimistic, listen to the words of the late Major Charles Gamble Baird—yes, and of his wife. Major Baird died in France. He had been married for 14 years. In his will he wrote this:

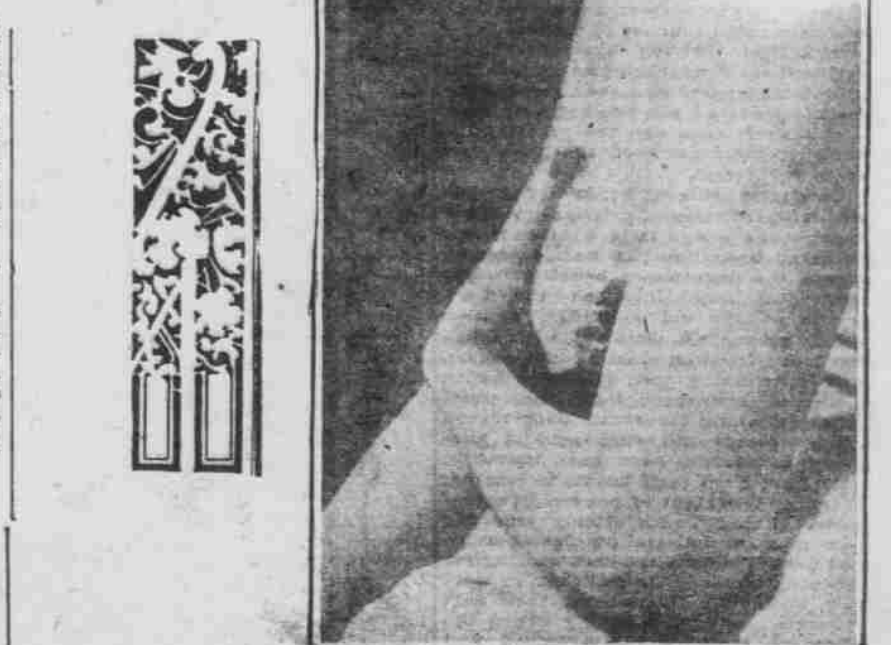
"I want to say to the world that my

wife, in my estimation, is the most perfect woman I ever saw, heard or

knew of. She is endowed with marvelous courage, a very strong will and an intensely high ideal of honor. Her love has never at any time diminished, but has grown always, until I feel it has reached a point that can reasonably be considered the acme of perfect love. I am the richest of men, in that I am blessed with the truest, most honorable and loving wife in the world."

And Mrs. Baird. Do you want to hear what she said?

"God took him from me because we were so happy that we forgot everything else. I even forgot to pray—there seemed nothing to pray for. Oh, why can't everyone be like that? It is such a beautiful world, with the trees, the flowers, the sea and the blue sky. Only people make it ugly with their selfish desires."



MRS. LYMAN P. KENDALL, WIFE OF THE "ALIMONY KING," WHO HAS RECEIVED A BLESSING FROM HER HUSBAND'S FIRST WIFE.

down a shetland wool sweater so that the fronts soon sag badly.

Stunning suits of crepe de chine are ready for midsummer weeks. They have pleated skirts just long enough to touch the ankle line of buttoned walking boots, and the little jackets are trimly cut with rather loose lines down starched cotton collar and silk tie, and the laddie wears also socks with colored borders to match the tie and sport oxfords of tan leather or white buckskin. Linnen is such a desirable material for small boys' clothes that every mother is delighted to see it back after its banishment during war-time. There are blue linnen suits also and some smart little models of brown linnen. The small boy leaves

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pinks and pale blues to his sister—white, navy, brown or grey are the shades for himself.

Sentiment Beginning to Line Up. The sentiment against Wilson and the democratic party for its submission to his dictation is strong through the south, as all know who have the opportunity to test the feelings of the people. Here comes a declaration from Florida that the republicans of that state expect to carry it at the next election. They are to place in the field a ticket in 1920 whose candidates all but two voted the democratic ticket in 1916.

The production of crude oil during

March in California averaged 278,665

barrels daily, a slight decrease com-

pared with February, when the daily

output was 280,064 barrels. Shipments,

however, of 244,411 barrels daily are

approximately 18,000 barrels daily in

excess of February's shipments. Stocks

declined 185,336 barrels during the

month, according to Standard Oil of

California. The crude oil stocks at the

end of March amounted to 32,435,823

barrels. The total shipments from fields

during March were 5,823,565 barrels.