

LIFE.

To the preacher life's a sermon,
To the joker it's a jest,
To the miser life is money,
To the loafer life is rest,
To the lawyer life's a trial,
To the poet life's a song,
To the doctor life's a patient
Who needs treatment right along.

To the soldier life's a battle,
To the teacher life's a school,
Life's a good thing to the grafter,
It's a failure to the fool,
To the man upon the engine
Life's the making of a grade,
Life's a gamble to the gambler,
To the merchant life is trade.

Life is but a long vacation
To the man who loves his work,
Life's an everlasting effort
To shun duty to the shirk,
To the earnest Christian worker
Life's a story ever new,
Life's just what we try to make it,
Brother, what is life to you?
—H. M. C., U. S. Naval Hospital, Wash-
ington, D. C.

LOVE AND MARRIAGE.

By L. A. Miller.

As I removed my pencil from the back of my ear, I hesitated for a moment as to which of these popular topics I would write about. After a little hesitation I concluded I would select the one that would appeal most forcibly to the women. I figured that now, since the women are made equals to the men in the political sense—knowing full well that women read much more now than heretofore, and owing to the fact that they are, as a rule, partial to your journal on account of its rigid cleanliness, and its abhorrence to sensations and scandals, I concluded that "Love and Marriage" would fill the bill to the satisfaction of all.

There is no word in the human language more beautiful or more sacred than the word "Love"; and there is none which is used with more vagueness of connotation, or more profanely, to denote the thing that every pure and noble heart would most abhor.

In the first place, love, if it is to be conducive to the social end must not be what is called "romantic." A great deal of the disappointment of marriage may be attributed to false expectations founded upon the romantic idea of love; the false idealization of the beloved person. To attribute the affection to the object of love is characteristic of the romantic idea. A romantic girl says, "my love is the type of all chivalry; he is endowed with all noble qualities; there is no fault in him." And the romantic lover says his maiden "is a goddess; I worship the ground on which she travels."

The idea of romantic love is the excessive magnifying of persons, and it is inspired by the desire of each to enjoy the perfection of the other.

It may be asked: But why should not this be accounted an amiable and venial fault, if fault it be? Why should we not, in the period of youth, indulge ourselves in delusions and dreams? Why should we not invest one another with this starry mantle?

The answer is, because it is false; and falsehood, especially in the fundamental relations of life, are sure to exact its penalties and to bring reaction in after years. There are some persons, especially women, who have the art of obstinately adhering to their delusions in defiance of their better knowledge. But in general, when it appears that the ideal has feet of clay.

Then one of two things must happen; either the marriage continues intact while love is dead, supported by the force of custom or by fear of exposure, and becomes a sort of lack-lustre fellowship; a weary chain that is dragged to the end with what patience one can command; or else, in the bolder and more reckless natures, the desire to meet the embodiment of one's ideal somewhere, persists, and the attempt is made to find outside of marriage, in unwholesome and illicit ways the satisfaction which the marriage relation fails to bring; for these reasons a romantic life cannot be the true love.

Again, there should be a warning against an idea which is very common at present, under the influence of the college education of girls, and of the emancipation of women—the idea that in the relation between the sexes, every attempt should be made to ignore sex difference, and that men and women should meet just as men meet with men, on the basis of comradeship.

This idea, I believe, like that of romantic love, a pernicious one. In the first place, if it is encouraged before marriage, it is likely to conduce to tragedies. Nature may be ignored, but cannot, after all, be annulled. The attraction between the opposite sexes is different from that between members of the same sex, and so it often happens that between those who have affected to deal with one another simply as good comrades, there suddenly comes an inrush of passion for which they were not prepared, and which is all the more violent because they were not on their guard. And if it is encouraged after marriage, it leads to still worse consequences because the idea of mere comradeship is obnoxious and antagonistic to the idea of marriage. Such a thing as a permanent comradeship cannot be imposed. In the very nature of comradeship is implied the possibility of separation. There is no comrade to whom I feel myself so pledged as to be inseparably connected. Comradeship depends on free choice, and free choice can be annulled.

I may be the comrade of some one in matters of business, then we are held together so long as our business interests combine us. I may be his comrade in some literary or scientific pursuit. I may be his comrade on a journey; and at the end of the journey, we may shake hands and part

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forever. There is nothing permanent in the idea of comradeship.

But the idea of marriage is different. He who enters into marriage gives up a part of his liberty. Marriage is not comradeship. The very essence of it is a permanent bond. Sex attraction exists in the lower animal world; in a sense, it is the basest and most repulsive instinct which we know. How does it happen, then, in the human world, that it is not only dignified and exalted, but even transformed into its opposite, so that what on the animal level is most despicable, becomes most honorable and most pure. It is not just the permanence of the marriage relation that makes the difference! It is not because of that interweaving of mind and heart which is only possible on the basis of permanence.

I have often said that marriage seems to me to be the epitome of all other fine relations. There is a certain element of brotherliness in it between the married pair; there is a certain fatherly attitude; there is a certain motherly brooding on the part of the wife over her husband; there is friendship, and an element of comradeship; and there is always something infinitely more—what is that infinitely more? It is something present in no other human relation. It is just the feeling that, as between husband and wife, there shall be a total blending of mind with mind and heart with heart; that they shall touch not merely at one point, as friends and companions do, but they shall touch at all points; that they cannot endure separation.

Emerson said he could well afford to have his friend Carlyle, live on the other side of the water—he did not need his presence; but true husband and wife cannot live one on this side of the water and the other on the other side. They are moved to have all in common; to live under the same roof, to break bread together, to suffer with each other, to rejoice together, to con life's lessons together; not wish to confer perpetual benefit each on the other. They are not romantic enthusiasts, neither are they without the poetic rapture in each other's relation.

The true cure of marriage differs from romantic love in this; that the romantic lover sees perfection, contrary to facts, and attributes a present perfection to the other; the real lover is he who sees a certain excellence, a certain charm—without the attraction of that there will be no approach—but beyond that, sees the possibility of greater excellence and perfection which is not yet, but which shall be developed through mutual help.

One cannot think of marriage without the children. And it is in relation to the children that the task of realizing the excellence which has not yet appeared, is best achieved. The children, for instance, if they are to be well brought up, and well guided, must reverence their parents. The quality of reverence is indispensable. But if they are to reverence them, then parents must become worthy of their reverence; and so this need of the children is the challenge which helps, and spurs on the parent to become worthy of reverence. Our children turn to us for knowledge. If we are to impart that knowledge we must have it; we cannot afford to be idlers and triflers. Of course we cannot give them all the instructions they require. We send them to schools or engage tutors for them, but we must give them the infatuation of knowledge. They must not look upon us as ignorant persons. They must realize that in some field we too are competent. They must get the atmosphere of superior experience and knowledge from us. Furthermore the children depend upon us for example. Children are often passionate, irritable, violent.

How far reaching is our example! What a challenge then to us to become self-controlled and severe for their sake! The lights and shadows from our countenance fall into their life. Let us remember, no matter what happens to us, no matter what grief gnaws at our heart, no matter what loss we may sustain, what we owe to the little ones; and let us try to achieve serenity, patience, and resignation; so that the light of our countenance may illumine their life, and the shadows of our countenance may not darken it. The presence of children become the great stimulus to the growth and development of perfections which are as yet but latent in the husband and wife. The child needs father and mother; the child needs the father's masculine influence,

and the mother's feminine influence always together, the two streams uniting to pour their fructifying influence through the child's life into the life of humanity.

Christmas Caroling to be Organized in 2,000 Cities.

The revival of the old-times, Old World custom of Christmas Eve caroling has made such rapid progress in the United States during the past decade, according to the statistics of the National Bureau for the Advancement of Music, that it will be organized in probably more than 2,000 towns and cities this year, many of which are already recruiting and rehearsing their singers.

One of the interesting later developments of the movement has been its spread into the rural communities, with the carolers conveyed by auto, or when there is snow on the ground, by sleigh, from village to village. In North Dakota the State University at Grand Forks, through its extension division, is giving impetus to this activity for the coming Christmas.

For those who wish to organize caroling groups there is considerable information and assistance available, which may be obtained by writing to the National Bureau for the Advancement of Music at 45 West 45th Street, New York, and which is free upon request in single copies. It includes the general descriptive booklet, "Christmas Eve Caroling Being Revived," outlining the methods adopted in places of various size, a survey listing the 1,285 towns and cities, reports of whose caroling activity had been received up to last year, and a paper pattern of the hood and cape costume which is being widely used by the itinerant bands, and which adds so much to the color and picturesqueness of the scene. Those who organize the groups are most frequently school teachers, music teachers, Sunday school superintendents, club leaders and individuals generally who enjoy working with young people and helping them to serve their community.

JACKSONVILLE.

The funeral of Mr. Shamp, on Monday morning, was well attended.

The hunters have gone to the mountains and our town is rather quiet.

Miss Viola Korman, of near Curtin, spent Thanksgiving and the week-end at the Harry Hoy home.

The stork stopped at the Luther Fisher home, last Monday evening, and left a nine pound baby boy.

Mrs. Merrill Walker and children, of Howard, were guests over Thanksgiving at the E. R. Lucas home.

Mrs. William Weaver, Miss Pearl Weaver, Mrs. Mary Dietz and daughter Josephine were Lock Haven shoppers on Wednesday.

New License Tags for Coming Year.

Pennsylvania's 1926 motor vehicle license plate, with its gold background and blue figures will stand alone among the color combinations adopted by the various States for their automobile licenses next year. The colors are not duplicated by any other State from which plates have been received by the registration bureau. Ben. G. Eynon, registrar said. The colors are a reversal of those for this year when the background was blue and the figures gold.

What Causes Colds?

The time-honored notion that colds are for the most part caused by inclement weather is ridiculed in a bulletin issued by the United States Public Health Service. Cold in the head, says the bulletin, is unquestionably the consequence of over-fatigue, which exposes the system to the bacilli float constantly about. The majority of colds are "caught" during the months when little outdoor exercise is taken.

Someone Must Worry.

Doctor—You have nervous dyspepsia, same as Brown had. His was caused by worrying over his grocery bill. I directed him to stop worrying.

Stranger—Yes, and now he's cured, I've got it. I'm his grocer.

—Senator Borah is too peaceful for this world. He wouldn't fight anybody for anything.

—Subscribe for the "Watchman."



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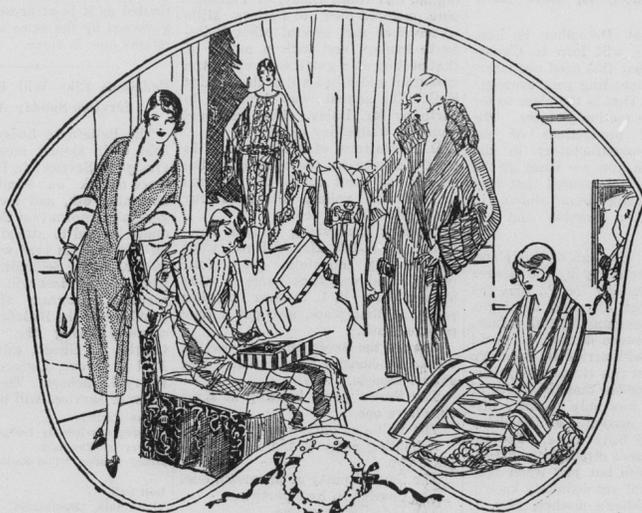
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| Lingerie—possesses that charm which delights her intimate hours. | Neckwear—she never can have an over-supply of this accessory. |
| Furs—appeal to the woman's inherent love for all things beautiful. | Gloves—make the smart, serviceable and acceptable gift. |
| Hand-bags—leather or beaded—help her to attain the latest chic. | Evening Scarfs—in gorgeous colors and designs are charming gifts. |

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