Woman's Life and Love

By WINIFRED HARPER COOLEY

Marrying Out of Your Class

THRILLS were furnished New York newspapers readers recently, when a millionaire's daughter married a policeman! He was of the mounted police in Central Park, those who are picked not for their pugilistic qualities, like men in the tough districts, but for their physique and equestrian talents.

MISS HELEN HARRIMAN COOLEY

Of course he was handsome, and all the girls who read of the romance, began on the bridle-path, and ending on the bridal path, undoubtedly declared that they "didn't blame her a bit!"

What if her family did live in a fifth avenue mansion and have a country home on Long Island, and a winter palace in Florida, and a yacht where else, a girl wants something in life besides luxury, and a handsome policeman is better than a disrupt pork packer!

Heiresses always are running with their chauffeurs, since the invention of forms have been tailored so alluringly, and the fact that a year or so afterward the couple often figure in the divorce courts, does not hamper the sentimental enthusiasm of young fools who still dream of that ideal mating.

We have no way of ascertaining the proportion of marriages of this sort that turn out happily, but we can be sure of one thing: it takes more strength of character and loyalty and persistence and common sense to remain in such a hymeneal bond, than in the common garden variety of marriage.

The reason is that everything is pulling the couple apart. They have nothing in common except their mutual attraction. Their early education and environment have been wholly different; the ideals instilled into them different. Their relatives and friends will not mingle. It is probable that all of her relations are fighting the match, and doing everything in their power to undermine her love and loyalty. Usually, her parents at once suggest an annulment of the legal tie, and make strong efforts to physically separate the two young lovers. Cruel and inhuman as this parental conduct looks to outsiders, it usually has the effect of undermining the will of the girl, who doubtless has been more or less spoiled, and dominated by her wealthy mother and father.

Vital indeed must be the love-force to withstand the onslaught of many strong wills. Fascinating indeed must be the young husband to combat the pressure of social dogma. For to claim that America has no caste system is absurd. We talk democracy, but we do not practice it.

How do the average housekeepers speak of their washerwomen, or persons who do the cleaning? How do the presidents of banks regard the scrubwomen or elevator girls of their office buildings? What would the big corporation lawyer say if his daughter married the son of the furnace stoker? What a frantic struggle ensues when a young son weds a chorus girl; or even, in some cases, a stenographer in dad's office!

It is the part of common sense to mate according to nature. Happy are the pairs who retain their mutual infatuation through a long lifetime of wedded bliss, and fine are the children that come at love's behest. But artificial standards are so prevalent in all walks of society that it is difficult for any boy or girl to step down from his or her own class and form a permanent alliance.

It is easier to step up than down. Americans are noted for being adaptable, and the ease with which American girls have graced European titles, and acted as if to the manner born, has astounded Europeans with their centuries of set traditions.

One of the reasons militating against the mixed social marriage is that, outside of love itself, there are so many elements that enter into marriage; any couple should have hundreds of tastes and interests in common! The millionaire girl is accustomed to people who talk expertly of grand opera, of the horse, of intimate news of friends in Newport or at Palm Beach. Dramatic criticisms, and European gossip, sophisticated discussion of drawing-room scandals, or the latest art exhibit or problem play, of fashionable modistes, and Batik, or free verse, form her atmosphere.

The policeman may be handsome and fine and normal, and love the horse-back riding and the great outdoors, but that is their only point of contact—that and their romance. How long can daily routine be maintained happily, with so few things to talk about? When the novelty and glamour wears off of the honeymoon, will the bride reflect that, after all, a man in her own set would have been more companionable? Will the bridegroom feel a shock at the inability of his bride to adapt herself to the practical world, and her lack of culinary talent?

There are two entirely different problems. If the girl herself is independently rich, the question is simpler than if she bows all by wedding a poor man's. In the former case the couple may enjoy all of the comforts and luxuries that the girl's money can buy, and if there are no social ambitions, they may achieve some personal happiness and find it in his more restricted life—and all go well. Happy the couple who together accomplish this miracle, and can say to the worldly parents that bought the match, "We told you so!"

But the bride who renounces a vast fortune and really gets down to the job of being a poor man's wife has a tragic fate in store. Domestic drudgery is seldom welcomed by one used to luxury, and love would have to be an ideal indeed to illuminate sordid poverty!

AT CUPID'S CALL

By MAY CHRISTIE

Suspense!

THEN she removed her dainty silk and shoes, took off her hat and wrapped herself in a chic, quilted dressing gown. She removed the pins from the masses of her curly hair and started to brush it out—for her head ached just a trifle, and the brushing eased it.

Then she turned the gas on higher and surveyed her reflection in the greenish looking glass.

Dick Gilmore

Dear, cheapness of the artificial light! Mary's lovely head turned, as she pointed as she say, it glimmered [illegible] at her!

Over her shoulders flowed a mass of silken ripples and waves, broken curls. Like a [illegible] framed the [illegible] face.

Her [illegible] eyes [illegible] as marks [illegible] a their depths, [illegible] against her cheeks.

And Mary [illegible] was [illegible] and sweetness. No [illegible] to mar [illegible]

"Cheer [illegible] Mary to the pretty [illegible] though, you [illegible] ought to [illegible] but [illegible] whole world [illegible] —you care [illegible] tales are [illegible]

Down [illegible] left hand, [illegible] Mary [illegible]

"Was [illegible]

"It's [illegible]

Oh [illegible]

But [illegible] wire [illegible] in the [illegible] and [illegible]

Mary [illegible] long [illegible] should [illegible] the [illegible] bell [illegible]

She [illegible] to her [illegible]

"Hello! [illegible]

No [illegible]

"Hello!" [illegible]

Silence [illegible]

She'd [illegible]

Dick. Oh [illegible]

The [illegible] the [illegible] she started [illegible]

[illegible] At [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]