To Which Woman Should He Have Shown Allegiance?

By WINNIFRED HARPER COOLEY

A VERY charming man is marrying this week, in a Western city. He is wedding one woman, although he loves another. Is this wicked or commendable?

WINNIFRED HARPER COOLEY

For many years novels of a sentimental type have told stories of women who were forced by stern parents, or some cruel fate, to wed one man while adoring another. At the altar they were pale and trembling, and their readers wept and trembled when they motioned their bulbous extremes, compelled as they would be, to endure the caress of a husband whom they abhorred, while their hearts were breaking for the discarded lover. They must have made the choice seem hard because of a stern fixed parent or relatives, who were down upon them, and upon whom we could pour a comfortable hate. I doubted a widow often gave up a rich man to marry a poor one, with opportunities to undo the error.

When the ladies were not [illegible] a man [illegible] ring [illegible] demonstrative [illegible] He can keep [illegible] Home more [illegible] up in his [illegible]

And yet [illegible] sitive [illegible] hypocrisy [illegible] and [illegible] tion [illegible] of sweetness [illegible] woman who [illegible] forever.

Mr. A [illegible] years. [illegible] her, but [illegible] Off and [illegible] twistings [illegible] together [illegible] and suffered [illegible] choice [illegible] a noble and [illegible]

pioning her and assisting her and forgetting any pique his youthful vanity may have endured at being jilted. He helped her raise her children and took the place of her worthless spouse so far as propriety would permit.

After she was a widow they remained friends, and somehow her frequent companionship prevented his meeting other women in any intimate or sentimental way. It "spoiled his chances." His relatives sighed in vain over the hopeless bachelor and ceased trying to make matches.

He had lost all eager desire to marry this woman, but she had become a habit.

AS TIME went on, and she realized that she was more than forty, and that eligible men were few, it occurred to her that this faithful and really delightful man was her "best bet." He would always be reliable, and his financial position and social ties were most desirable. Pondering on the matter, she decided to settle down to old age with him, and so she tactfully let him know that at last she was willing to marry him.

Being courteous and affectionate and a creature of habit, he never guessed her decision. In fact, the idea of a change appealed to him.

And then he met Ermentine, the type of woman whom he did not dream existed. She was lovely and talented and fascinating and romantic. To her he poured out his pent-up love with fire and eloquence.

BEING weak human creatures, as most people are, under great temptation, they drifted along, submerging in a sunset mist of emotion and tacitly happy just in being together. His fiancée was in the East, enjoying herself and having her trousseau. They knew it as a "fool" Paradise, but they could not realize most facts. When the bride-elect informed him she at last had arrived to marry he had no alternative. Such was his sense of duty. He was the old-time "gentleman"; he must fulfill his obligations.

So who bore the great love sufferer's breaking heart. Does he owe her choice or a debt of honor? Which does honesty and duty demand?

Please Tell Me What to Do

By CYNTHIA

Letters to Cynthia's column must be written on one side of the paper only and must be signed with the writer's name and address. The name will not be published if the writer does not wish it. Unsigned letters and letters written on both sides of the paper will not be answered. Writers who wish personal answers that can be given in the column will please look there, as personal letters are only written when absolutely necessary.

She Eloped; Would Have Another Ceremony

Dear Cynthia—I am a girl eighteen years of age and I am in an awful fix. About two months ago I eloped but no one knew of it as I am still living with my parents and my husband is living in a different part of the city. Now I regret this foolish elopement as I could have had a wedding. Now I want to have a wedding so as to avoid all scandal, as no person I know would ever think I'd do such a secret thing. My whole future would be shortened. Cynthia, as long as no one knows it can't I get a license at City Hall and be married all over again as though nothing had happened? I shall thank you for every bit of information I shall be looking for my letter to appear in your column soon. GLADYS.

[illegible] to see the clergyman [illegible] would ask to perform the ceremony as you could not [illegible] him about it. Tell him your problem under secrecy, and take his advice. Personally since you have been married it seems to Cynthia it's better to come right out and [illegible] judge it.

Advice to "Anxiously Waiting"

Dear Cynthia—Would say to Anxiously Waiting that under existing conditions she had better [illegible] the subject before thought before making a decision.

[illegible] get along [illegible] with [illegible] mother-in-law [illegible] will be one of the [illegible] difficulties of the age. If everything will be all right after you are married.

If you take your mother-in-law in for life there is natural a reversal of order.

You naturally come first, and for [illegible] mother-in-law take kindly to stepping down.

Another thing, you will have a [illegible] for and sympathize over everything you do and say.

Furthermore [illegible] large enough for two women. Especially [illegible] mother-in-law and daughter-in-law. [illegible] constantly infringes on your home [illegible] to your husband [illegible] Cynthia cannot [illegible] you [illegible] mother-in-law [illegible] with you will never have to [illegible]

You see I know whereof I speak for [illegible] cases like this are [illegible] about the same. There seem to be [illegible] Ruths and Naomis among us.

The latter part of Cynthia's answer [illegible] and I would repeat [illegible] you give it much [illegible] GRIDIRON.

A Mean Deal

[illegible] last winter [illegible] [illegible] I am sure you will [illegible] I posted you a letter. I asked [illegible] some advice such as your column [illegible] for and you were kind enough to [illegible] And at this time I will take pleasure in thanking you for the past favors.

Well, Cynthia, I didn't heed. You'll [illegible] what a true little saint I told you she was.

[illegible] days are gone for ever. Almost two years ago I met my little [illegible] and I played the modern [illegible] Well, we used to go [illegible] swimming dancing and [illegible] being talented in a musical way [illegible] and vice versa. They were [illegible] days indeed. Oh, how I [illegible] then [illegible] forget it.

[illegible] learned her and put her on a [illegible] like all the modern Romeos [illegible] a pretender, and she started [illegible] her balance and fell for [illegible] a good wife. Father [illegible] mother and father [illegible] I loved the sight of [illegible] My [illegible] and at last I [illegible] shaking a wonderful [illegible] who cares a good deal [illegible] to do was to get out [illegible] and [illegible] rollers. So after [illegible] three long months, only one [illegible] to keep me cheered and she [illegible] played the delight and Hole [illegible]

[illegible] supposed to be the only one [illegible] was well, but [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]