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FRIENDSHIP AS KEY TO HAPPY MARRIAGE

Power of Being Companionable Great Asset.

If you ask half a dozen friends which quality is most likely to make for happiness in marriage you will probably receive half a dozen different replies. And all will be illuminating.

The man most occupied with business may regard common sense as supremely important. An imaginative woman will tell you that sympathy is the first essential, while a less sensitive-minded woman suggests good temper. The grace of cheerfulness, the benediction of that "ordinary" kindness which, because so rare is so extraordinary, the sunshine of a merry nature, the tender appeal of unselfishness—all these qualities make for happiness in marriage.

But what is the final test? Which of all the varied characteristics of human nature is, if developed and cherished, most likely to bring enduring happiness in marriage?

The answer is to be found in an observation not of very new marriages but of those which have known years of storms of disappointments, of disillusionments. In happy marriages which might so easily have been unhappy, is it not the power of being companionable which kept husband and wife together?

Marriages have often come to a tragic end because the man and the woman have not learned to be friends. In a marriage where the joys of companionship have been incompletely realized, a disappointment in marriage as such may lead to permanent estrangement. But where there is real friendship, a happy companionship, a joy in doing things together, the desire to continue a great comradeship may prove stronger than the wish to end a disappointing marriage.

Modern women expect much more from life than their mothers expected. I am always surprised and a little envious when, reading the novels of the latter Victorian days, I find how contented women were with a little happiness. They made a little joy go a long way.

The women of today might take a lesson from those unconscious heroines. If marriage as a romantic relationship has proved a disappointment, there is inspiration and refuge in the knowledge that a friendship between husband and wife may be the most beautiful relationship in the world, becoming a more lasting bond than the marriage tie itself.—London Mail.

Machines in Astronomy

At least two-thirds of the time now spent by astronomers on extended computations can be saved by the use of adding and computing machines, according to Dr. L. J. Comrie of the Dearborn observatory of Northwestern University. In the past, objections have been made to the use of such instruments from the possibility of their being inaccurate, but, said Doctor Comrie, "modern engineering skill has produced machines that are practically fool-proof and error-proof, as well as versatile and easy to operate." Doctor Comrie pointed out that this development of the computing machine to its present perfection is the result of its wide commercial application, but that this same development has caused the machine to be designed essentially for business purposes. Machines might be constructed which would suit the purposes of astronomers and other scientists much better than those now in use, he said, if they were used to a sufficient extent.

Hypnotic Reptilian Eyes

It has often been stated that certain reptiles have the hypnotic eye, and are able to "fascinate" their victims by their peculiar expressionless concentration. Another proof of this has come from a well-known big game hunter, who tells in a recently published book what happened to a rubber planter in Africa. Two friends, who were with another man on an expedition, left him to watch the camp while they went into the forest. When they came back they found him sitting motionless, gazing fixedly at a dark mass of leaves just in front of him, but he took no heed of them. Then they saw that the head of a great snake was protruding from the leaves, its eyes fixed with intensity on its chosen victim. They shot the snake at once. But their friend confessed that he was unable to move away from the terrible gaze the snake had fixed upon him.

In the Right Place

The Somerset (England) Football association council was amused by a remarkable coincidence of names during the investigation of the circumstances in which the referee had cautioned a certain player. Evidence showed that the player was sandwiched between two of the opposing teams. "You were the meat between two pieces of bread?" the chairman asked the player. "Yes," was the unexpected reply. "My name is Ham."

Desert Land Awaits

Tread of Explorer

First discovered by the English explorer, Stephen Borough, in 1556, Nova Zembla, the great Arctic land off the coast of European Russia, with its lifeless waste of interior, has remained much of a mystery ever since.

It is shaped like an elongated crescent and contains about 36,000 square miles. It is part of the Russian province of Archangel, and is practically a continuation of the hilly country of north Russia, only about thirty-seven miles of strait separating it from the mainland.

The northern section seems to be covered by a great ice sheet. The interior consists of a main mountain chain with traverse chains thrown in different directions, separated by deep, narrow valleys, some of which are watered by streams of considerable size. During the spring thaw these rivers bring down large masses of rock fragments. On the north and south extremities the mountains descend to a comparatively low plateau with level valleys dotted by a multitude of lakes.

Groeland, on the south, is covered in the summer with grasses. Elsewhere even leaved lichen are scarce, although leather lichens flourish. In places where a little humus has formed flowering plants appear, the brilliant flowers seeming to spring directly from the ground, concealing the smaller leaves. The complete flora thus far known numbers about 200 species. The interior is practically devoid of animal life—only stray white foxes, white bears and immigrant reindeer. The seacoast, however, is covered during the summer with countless birds. Millions of auks swarm on the rocks. Great flocks of ducks, geese and swans swarm every summer on the valleys and lakes of the South. There is good salmon fishing in the rivers.

Rod in Pickle

The annual slaughter resultant from the British shooting season has long made the brine tub necessary as a means of eliminating loss and waste. To rural Britain the third Sunday in November was long known as "Salting Sunday." In by-gone days the saltings along the Essex coast were valuable properties, for salt being obtained by evaporation only, the deposit from the tidal waters year after year, amounted to no small quantity.

Year after year to the saltings came the farmers in their big lumbering wagons, bent on exchanging their surplus live stock for the necessary preservative at the then current rate of one sheep for two bushels of salt.

It can be understood from this how the spilling of salt came to be regarded with superstitious feelings, and to be deemed unlucky. Another old saying: "I have a rod in pickle for you," also originated about this time. Children in those days were sternly dealt with, and a bundle of twigs was quite often kept in soak in the family brine-tub in order to render it supple.

Named From Mountain

J. C. Rogers says that a syndicate of gentlemen, mostly composed of army officers, purchased the first tract of land on which Mount Rainier, Md., is situated from the Clemson heirs and that most of them came from Seattle, Wash. In honor of the celebrated snow-capped mountain near their old home they named the new subdivision Mount Rainier. This tract of land had belonged to Ann Clemson, who acquired it from her father, John C. Calhoun, the great nullifier, whose home stood at the intersection of what is now Ash and Thirty-first streets.—Washington Star.

Buffalo Increasing

The herds of buffalo at the Wainwright National park, in Canada, have increased far beyond the number that could be supported in a dry year. It is estimated that no more than 5,000 head should be held at Wainwright. At present, despite the slaughtering of many hundreds of buffalo last year, there are still more than 8,000 head.

Pima Cotton Valuable

Pima cotton, introduced into the United States as a domestic long-staple product, to take the place of Egyptian cotton, makes better mail pouches than almost any other material, the bureau of standards has determined in a series of tests. Two hundred pouches made of Pima cotton and 200 of ordinary cotton were made up by the bureau and put into identical use for a year in the hardest service. None of the Pima bags was torn after a year, but one-third of the ordinary bags were torn badly.

Survey Holy Land

A complete real estate survey of the Holy land has been started by the British administration in Palestine. Many titles and boundary lines are in dispute, holding up the agricultural settlement, because Zionist settlers from other countries have been unable to purchase land.

Nature's Wisdom

The decree of battle is not alone nature's means for the development of animal and vegetable strength and perfection, but she arranges for the development of armaments and fighting and defense appliances to meet every improvement in the status of any species. Works on biology seem with examples showing the manner in which the mechanism of Mendelian heredity works.

Preserving Books

The simplest way to prevent mildew of books is to keep the leather in a well-ventilated and well-lighted place, preferably one exposed to the sunlight. Mildew cannot make much headway in sunshine. When mildew develops it should be washed off with soap and warm water, or simply wiped off with a moist cloth, drying the leather well afterward.

Might in the Jungle

The lion, noted as being the noblest of the jungle's beasts, is, of course, a mighty hunter. His ferocity is proverbial. All animals as well as man become its victims. The African buffalo, however, is often its master, and elephants sometimes are able to overpower both lions and all members of the tiger family.

Perfumed Butter

The perfumed butter used in Paris is made by taking parts of "fresh" or unsalted butter and placing them on a layer of some variety of flowers, according to the perfume desired, a piece of muslin being laid between the butter and blossoms. Another layer of flowers is placed above the butter and then ice is added.

Birds Devour Pests

The Department of Agriculture says that our birds will eat the pest known to scientists as the Japanese beetle, and are counted upon as a natural check to its depredations. The purple grackle has proven to be the most important bird enemy, two-thirds of its diet consisting of Japanese beetles in neighborhoods infested with the pest.

Crocodiles' Advantages

Crocodiles, particularly those of the Egyptian Nile, are mighty hunters, although they exercise great judgment in choosing their victims. They are extraordinarily tough and tenacious of life, and are so shaped and defended by their strong skins that other animals have much difficulty in combating them.

Africa's Vast Water Power

Africa, although known as the "dark continent," contains nearly half of the world's potential water power. Second on the list is Asia, and then come North America, South America and Europe—in that order. Australia, smallest of the continents, is also last as regards white coal.

Cannot Replace Sun

Plants will thrive on artificial light, but the pseudo sunning is by no means a profitable plan for marketable plants, flowers or vegetables, according to experiments at the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, Yonkers.

Arizona

Authorities differ as to the meaning of the name "Arizona." Some say the name is derived from the Spanish words "arida zona," or arid zone. Others maintain that the word comes from "arizuma," meaning "silver-bearing."

America's Growth

The total area of the 13 original states which formed the nucleus of our great nation was 802,135 square miles. The territory under the flag of the United States is now four times that area.

Literature Is History

All that mankind has done, thought, gained or been, is lying as in magic preservation in the pages of books. They are the chosen possession of men.—George Eliot.

To Balance Family Ledger

An expert says boys are 10 per cent better at arithmetic than girls. When they get married they have to be—London Humorist.

Rule for Advancement

Employ your time in improving yourselves by other men's documents, so shall you come easily by what others have labored for.—Exchange.

Houdini Couldn't Do This

Headline—"Postal Inspector Believes Criminal Entered Car in Empty Sack."—Boston Transcript.

Placed as Mythical

Phrenology, as a science, is usually discredited and held to be unsupported by physiology, anatomy and pathology.

Franklin Ranks High as Apostle of Thrift

Who does not remember Benjamin Franklin's advice: "Don't give too much for the whistle"? And by that he meant don't give more of thought or time or money for anything than it is worth. His unhappy experience with the whistle marked the beginning of Franklin's great work in the cause of thrift, the Thrift Magazine.

He had few books but was determined to have an education. Many a time he would sit up nearly all night reading by candlelight. To buy more books, Franklin made a bargain with his brother, to whom he was apprenticed, by which he would board himself on half the money it had been costing. Then he did without fish and meat, lived on a cheap vegetable diet and invested his savings in worthwhile books.

He never attended a college or even a high school. He went to a primitive grammar school but two years and yet he was one of the best educated men of his day. He found time to write books, to study science, to invent. No one ever exemplified the value of thrift in time more than did Franklin. His "wise saws" on time-saving, such as "Since thou art not wise, throw not away an hour," are known to all.

Dew Reservoirs

As a means of increasing water supplies for farms and dwellings remote from streams and pumping systems, dew reservoirs are being made to collect moisture from the air. Radiating surfaces of materials which keep cold under ordinary temperatures are placed above tanks built in elevated ground. As the moisture-laden air strikes these condensers, water forms on the sides and drips into the basins from where it can be piped when needed to any nearby point on the level land below. With an equipment of dew reservoirs, it is said, cisterns, troughs and similar containers require little attention to replenish.—Popular Mechanics Magazine.

Old Neighbors

While clearing land for a golf course at Mount Union, Pa., workers were obliged to remove an old apple tree. When the ax was laid to the trunk they found near the ground a hen and a nest of eggs. Midway up the tree a nest of red field mice was sheltered from the blasts of winter. Near the top a big screech owl had taken up its habitat. The strange neighbors had evidently been living peacefully under the same roof-tree.

Variety of Food in China

Vegetables are used much more freely by the Chinese people than by the Americans. In addition to the common ones, such as potatoes, spinach, cabbage, radishes, and the like, many plants and weeds are eaten which are not usually considered as food in America. Thus radish leaves, shepherd's purses, bamboo sprouts and a large number of seaweeds are used as food.

When Pedagogues Kicked

Scotland's army of schoolmasters in the year 1782 sent a memorial to parliament pointing out that while their average income was £13 a year that of a plowman was £14 to £16. No relief was granted until 1802, when the Schoolmasters' act was passed, and their income was legally fixed at "not under 300 marks (£16 13s. 4d.) nor over 400 marks (£22 4s. 6d.)." Their heritors had also to provide a house, "which need not contain more than two rooms, including the kitchen, and with ground for a garden or not more than a quarter of a Scots acre, or two bolts of meal as its equivalent." They were highly indignant at being obliged to "erect palaces for dominees," but legal compulsion could no longer be ignored. Thereafter, conditions were at least good enough to prevent schoolmasters from resigning their office to become bachelors—as had actually happened during the darkest days!

White House Etiquette

James Monroe consulted his cabinet about the procedure involved in the reception of the diplomatic corps at the Presidential New Year's greeting, and it was decided that for the reception on January 1, 1818, the members of the diplomatic corps should be received at 11:30, and the general public from twelve to three o'clock. This was the first time that a fixed time was arranged.

Mahogany

The real mahogany is a tropical tree and most of it is grown in the Central American countries, such as Honduras, Guatemala, British Honduras and southern Mexico. A great deal of the mahogany of these countries is floated down the rivers to the sea in rafts. The timber is roughly squared and then floated down the rivers during the rainy season.

Protein at

Crude protein has become an important factor in establishing the market value of certain classes of wheat. Premiums of several cents a bushel have been paid for each additional per cent of crude protein contained in wheat above an agreed percentage. Ash content also is an important factor in marketing flour.

Marvels of Jelly-Fish

The jelly-fish has a truly wonderful way of reproducing its species. In most cases the beginning is an egg, which, lying on the bottom, produces a beautiful tree-like growth. The "tree" fastens itself to the bottom and brings forth buds which, when ripe, drop off and develop into jelly-fish. The latter in turn lay eggs and the process is repeated. Most of the very large species have a different way of reproducing themselves. The egg is set free in the water and develops into a pear-shaped larva, which, for while swims about rapidly, being provided with hair-like appendages that serve the purpose of ears. Then the larva settles down, anchors itself to the bottom, increases in size rapidly, and finally splits up into thin, flat discs which swim off and grow up into large jelly-fishes.

Church Involved Labor

In the Portuguese Congo a church has been built of stone which had to be carried four miles by the natives. The completed structure contains 15,000 stones, representing nearly 120,000 miles of walking.

Refused Allegiance

Robert Toombs, Confederate secretary of state in 1861, and general in the Confederate service, went abroad after the war to live, but returned to the United States in 1867 and refused to swear allegiance to the United States government.

Nation's Early Days

In 1775 the estimated population of the 13 colonies was 2,900,000. The population of the principal colonies was: Massachusetts, 335,000; Pennsylvania, 300,000; New York, 190,000; North Carolina, over 205,000; Virginia, 450,000.

Leaders in Glass Making

The name of Chance is inseparably connected with scientific glass making, the world over. This name represents the best in connection with microscopes, telescopes, laboratory ware, and, in fact, wherever glass of high quality is employed. This great British firm, which celebrated its hundred years of existence last year, has a romantic record in glass-making. The Crystal palace, originally erected in Hyde park, was glazed with 100,000 square feet of Chance's sheet glass. Until the war they were the only British manufacturers of optical glass, and the large astronomical telescopes of many of the world's biggest observatories are fitted with their lenses. Lighthouses, too, on all the coasts of the world flash their beams from prisms produced at the well-known Smethwick works.—London Times.

Beware Chinese Remedies

Weird and wonderful are the medicines prescribed by at least 2,000 Chinese quack doctors who are operating throughout the United States and whose "remedies" are on sale in many Chinese stores in this country. These men, however, should not be confused with the legitimate Chinese physicians and surgeons, of whom there are probably one hundred in the United States.

Most of the "doctors" were cooks, laundrymen, stevedores, or opium peddlers before they began to dabble in medicine. The patient is requested to describe his ailments, while the "doctor" writes down ostensibly what the patient has told him. In one instance the "doctor" was found to be marking a ticket for a Chinese lottery in San Francisco. The medicines prescribed include leaves, ground claws of a lion, dried toads, beetles, and snakes.

These articles provide quite a flourishing trade of their own, and good prices are