

PRACTICAL VINTON

By RICHARD HELL WILKINSON

Monica was not an unusual girl, although her friends thought she was. They thought so because she told them she wanted to be married in white and in a church. Even Vinton Stark, the boy she had promised to marry, couldn't see it her way.

"It's O. K. with me, honey, but it just isn't practical. Neither of us can afford to put on the dog. What good is a white satin wedding dress after the wedding? I mean, you can't wear it to work or you can't wear it to the movies or on picnics. It's a dead loss. We've got to look into the future."

That was the trouble with Vinton. That's what gave Monica her first doubts. Being an insurance salesman he was practical. Too practical. He didn't have any vision or imagination or understanding. It flashed into Monica's mind that if he couldn't understand even a little bit why she wanted to be married in white satin, how was it going to be later on, about other things? Suddenly she found herself confronted with a problem, torn between her honest love for Vinton and the advisability of marrying a man who couldn't understand you, was contemptuous of how you felt.

Monica might have taken drastic steps, but within the next week something happened to Vinton. He changed. He wasn't cheerful as was his custom. He canceled dates, giving time-worn and slim excuses about having to work nights. He didn't respond as readily to her attentions when she was with him.

Monica forgot everything else. She was losing Vinton? He no longer loved her? He was interested in some other woman? These and a dozen other possibilities crowded into her mind, panicky. She knew now that it was Vinton she wanted more than anything in the world, more, even, than to be married in white satin.

It was this secret admission that provided the clue which led to her understanding of what was wrong. Vinton, being practical, had, like herself, experienced doubts concerning their future together. Looking at it from his point of view she could imagine how he felt. He was afraid that if she insisted on being married in white satin she might insist on other things of equally impractical nature after they were married. He, too, was faced with a problem.

Monica complimented herself on her ingenuity in apprehending the difficulty. It was a relief, because now she could admit to Vinton that her idea had really been silly. She could tell him that actually she didn't care whether she was married in white or not. After all, she couldn't afford such a luxury, and what difference did it make anyhow, as long as you were really married?

Monica's understanding of the situation came two months after the first changes were evident in Vinton's manner. In another six weeks they were to be married. It was lucky. Monica thought, that she had made the discovery in time. Tonight when he came to take her to the movies she would relieve his mind once and for all.

She was alone in the house when Vinton finally arrived. One look at him and she sensed that something had happened. His eyes gleamed with a strange light. The old-time smile was on his lips. He swept her into his arms and kissed her in a manner that brought to mind the now almost forgotten days of two months ago.

"Vinton? Whatever has hap-

pened?" She clung to him, realizing now how much she had missed him as he was before. It was as if he had been away on a long trip and was now safely home. It occurred to her that there would be a tremendous amount of satisfaction in telling him she had discarded the idea about the white satin. The self-denial would provide real pleasure.

"Happened?" he was saying. "Well, look here!" And he reached into his pocket and took out an envelope. "Money," he said. "Extra money. Enough to buy your white satin wedding gown! I worked nights to make it, and kept you home from the movies. Didn't dare tell you because you're so danged impractical you wouldn't see it my way."

"Vinton!" He grinned. "Guess that's the

way I'll have to handle you, kid you into thinking you're not being practical. It would have been foolish," he went on seriously, "to let you spend the money you've saved for clothes, for a wedding dress. If you did that, I'd only have to dig down in the old sock the first month after we were married. This way you can have your dress and still buy your trousseau."

Monica's eyes were a little misty, a fact that Vinton didn't seem to notice. "The fact is, he went on, "I sort of understand how you feel. I mean, about wearing the proper clothes at the proper time. It's like me. I go in to a client and if I'm dressed up and my shoes are shined and my pants pressed — well, I can do a better job. I feel as good as any one. I feel the part. And I guess that's the way you are. I mean, you get married in white satin and you really feel that you're married, eh?" He paused, grinned. "It's a lucky thing though that one of us is practical."

"Practical!" Monica cried, on the verge of tears. "Oh, Vinton,

ASTC To Conduct Teacher Workshop

Boone — Appalachian State Teachers college is planning to conduct its second workshop in Resource - Use Education this summer. It will run concurrently with the first term of the regular summer session from June 9 to July 15, lasting six weeks only.

Dr. John H. Workman will be the director. The work will carry both undergraduate and graduate credit, allowing six quarter hours credit in Education.

The workshop is especially designed and planned for in-service teachers, principals, supervisors, and superintendents. The main purpose is to help teachers to enrich their teaching by aiding them in the discovery of the natural, economic, social and human resources in their commu-

unities and to help them to apply this information in the teaching and learning processes. This is done so that the children may become conscious of the many resources that are about them, and learn the practical uses of this knowledge in making and building a better community.

Lansing Women Install Officers

Miss Walter Osborne was installed as president of the women of Lansing Presbyterian church at the meeting held last

Thursday night at the church. Other officers installed were Mrs. Estella Powers, vice-president; Mrs. Grace Simpson, secretary; Mrs. Clyde Mullis, treasurer and Mrs. Tom Powers, historian.

Miss Irene Baldwin spoke to the group on "Christian Education" with Miss Betty Tinley in charge of the Bible study.

Mrs. J. O. Blevins and Mrs. Victor Clark, who served as joint hostesses, served delicious

refreshments during the social hour.

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Freedom of worship . . . freedom of assembly . . . freedom of press . . . freedom of speech — these are the pillars of America — a nation built upon the rights of man. To preserve the priceless freedom of this land, each pillar must be guarded with zealous care. We must ever be aware that the rights of man, and of any nation, are at stake when these tenets of freedom are abridged.

At Easter and other holy seasons — and at all times — we should give profound thanks for a country which endows every man, woman and child with the right to worship as he or she chooses. Without spiritual liberty, freedom would wither and die.

The children of today will be the leaders and the mothers and fathers of the nation tomorrow. Into their minds and hearts, in homes, in churches, in schools, we should ceaselessly instill knowledge of the blessings of freedom in the American way of life . . . and teach them to resist with all their strength those things which would destroy that freedom.

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