

ARP ON MATRIMONY

The Philosopher Writes on a Serious Subject

BOTH PARTIES SECURELY BOUND

Arp Says Marriage is the Only Partnership That Cannot Be Dissolved—Responsibility.

Married and gone. It is the same old story. Love and courtship. Then comes the engagement ring and a blessed interval of fond hopes and happy dreams, and then the happy day is fixed—the auspicious day that is never to be forgotten—a day that brings happiness or misery and begins a new life. Then comes the license, the permit of the law which says you may marry, you may enter into bonds. The state approves it and the law allows it, and it will cost you only a dollar and a quarter. Cheap isn't it? And yet it may be very dear. Then comes the minister, and the happy pair stand up before him and make some solemn vows and listen to a prayer and a benediction, and they are one. In a moment the trusting maid has lost her name and her free will, and is tied fast to a man. Well, he is tied fast, too, so it is all right all round, I reckon, but somehow I always feel more concern about the woman than the man. She is a helpless sort of a creature and takes the most risk, for she risks her all.

I was ruminating over this, for there was a marriage going on at our good friend Sam Jones' house, and their pretty daughter, Laura, was changing her name and her home on this the last day of the year and going off to live with a man she hasn't known very long; but I have diagnosed him from his face and features and am satisfied with her choice. He is a big-hearted gent' man, or else the signs fail. I wanted to be present and give them my blessing, but was not well enough to go—I've got the elephantiasis from my toes to my knees, and can hardly meander across the room, but I am always interested in the marriages of our young people. It is the most serious business in this life, and if the peril of it was known beforehand many of the young people would hesitate to make the change. The chains of matrimony and not bonds of marriage are the right words. When men make a partnership they can't get along well if they are unlike in disposition, or in moral principle or in business ways, but they can dissolve and separate at pleasure and try another man. A man and his wife ought to be alike in almost everything. In some things folks like their opposites—their counterparts. A man with blue eyes goes distracted over a pretty girl with hazel eyes—I did, and I'm distractee yet when I look into them, though I've been doing that for fifty-four years. But in mental and emotional qualities and in tastes and habits and politics and religion they should class together.

I never made any mistake about my choice of a partner for the dance of a life, but I've thought of it a thousand times that if Mrs. Arp had known I loved codfish and got up by daybreak every morning, she never would have had me. It was nip and tuck to get her, anyhow, and that would have been the feather to break the camel's back. Well, I'm mortal glad she didn't know it, though I am free to say that if I had known she slept until the second ringing of the first bell for breakfast and was fond of raw oysters, it would have had a dampening effect upon my ardor for a few minutes, only a few, but I have seen some mighty clever people eat oysters raw and sleep late in the morning. But still a man and his wife can harmonize and compromise a good many of these things, and it is a beautiful illustration of this to see Mrs. Arp cooking codfish for me and fixing it all up so nice with eggs and cream, and it is a touching evidence of my wondrous devotion to her to see me wandering about the house lonely and feeble every morning for an hour or two, and forbidding even the cat to walk heavily while she sleeps. That codfish business comes to me honestly from my father's side, and my mother put up with it like a good, considerate wife, and we children grew up with an idea that it was good. I've heard of a young couple who got married and went off to Augusta on a tour, and the feller stuck his fork into a codfish ball and took a bite. He choked it down like a hero, and when his beloved asked him what was the matter, replied: "Don't say anything about it, Mandy, but as sure as you are born there is something dead in the bread."

Well, we can make compromises about all such things as habits and tastes, but there are some things that won't compromise worth a cent. If a girl has been brought up to have a good deal of freedom, and thinks it no harm to go waltzing around with every gay, Lothario who loves to dance, and after she gets a feller of her own, wants to keep at it and have polluted arms around her waist, she had just as well sing farewell to conjugal love and domestic peace, for it is against the order of nature for a loving husband to stand it, and he oughtn't.

And now another busy year has gone—gone like the water that has passed over the dam—gone never to return. It has carried many friends along with it and left sad memories in the household, but on the whole it has been a good year to us all and Providence has been kind.

Now is the time to look back and review the past, as did old Janus, for whom January was named. He was the porter, the gate keeper, of heaven, and had two faces—one to look back and

the other forward into the mysterious future. Numa Pompilius gave him his name and his high office, for he was next in power to Jupiter. He added two months to the calendar and called one January for Janus and the other February for the mother of Mars. Until then there were but eight months of forty-six days each. Numa added two more, which gave them thirty-six days each, and January was the fourth month and remained so for more than two thousand years. April was the first month and remained so until two hundred years ago. Why it was changed I cannot understand, for April is much more like the beginning of a new year than January. April comes from aperio, to open—the time when the earth opens and the grass comes up and the flowers bloom and the birds sing. But the names of almost everything seem to comfort that old mythology, and we conform to that old mythology, and we can't get rid of it. My great-grandfather lived and died under that old calendar when April was the first month of the year. Julius Caesar and Augustus Caesar stuck in two more months and made the year of twelve months of thirty days each, but April remained in the first month and ought to be now.

But whether Christmas be in December or in April, we love the old superstitions that cluster around this season of joy and gladness. I always thought it a pretty idea for a man to be weighed every Christmas or New Year—to put his acts and deeds in the balances, the good on one side and the bad on the other, and let him rise to heaven or fall below it as the scales might turn. This is not an orthodox doctrine, for it is said that one bad deed will outweigh a thousand good ones. Nevertheless, Belschazar was weighed, and the scripture abound in such figures of speech. It will take miracles of grace to save us, anyhow, and we must all help one another, for the devil is doing his best. David committed murder; Solomon worshiped idols; Cain killed his brother; Jacob cheated Esau out of his birthright; Noah got drunk, and Peter denied his Master, but they all repented and got forgiveness; and if there is any difference between folks now and folks then, I don't know it. Then let us all love our Maker and be good to our fellow-men.—Bill Arp in Atlanta Constitution.

NEWSY CLEANINGS:

Several changes in the land laws of Alaska are proposed.

Cornell University's register shows 2968 students enrolled.

Liverpool has just received its first consignment of mahogany from Australia.

Japan denies that she intends sending naval squadrons to Esquimaux and Europe.

There are twenty-one boys for every seventy-nine able seamen in the British Channel fleet.

Two women tramps passed through Nevada, Mo., a few days ago riding on the iron rods under a box car.

The duty on automobiles in Russia ranges between eighteen and 198 rubles (\$9.27 to \$101.97) according to size.

The railway bridge at Koksilah, B. C., has been washed away by a sudden rise in the river due to heavy rain.

Exemption from military service on payment of a sum of money is to be abolished by the new Spanish ministry.

All the coal mines west of Green River in Kentucky have been purchased for \$8,000,000 by a syndicate, headed by J. Pierpont Morgan.

According to a cablegram from London, England is about to follow the lead of Russia, Italy, Belgium and France and have an automobile railway.

In Worcestershire, England, 499 women are engaged making anchors, while 703 others make needles and 1044 palls. Nearly all are married or widows.

There were thirty-nine glass-making plants in operation in Ohio during the past year, employing 7049 hands and paying out \$3,463,904 in wages, exclusive of salaries paid office help.

There is much anxiety felt in Mexico among the middle classes, including the wage-earners and salaried men, over the cost of living, which is considered entirely out of proportion to the incomes.

He Was a Bright Boy:

"I believe that I have the brightest office boy in the city," declared a gentleman to a friend in the city.

"That is a rather broad assertion," replied the friend. "What particular claim to brightness has your boy?"

"Well, I have had lots of trouble with my office boys of late, and they have been so decidedly unsatisfactory and worthless that I have had at least fifteen in the past thirty days. I have kept a sign out on my door stating that I was in need of a bright boy's services, for the entire time, almost and it reads as follows: 'Boy Wanted About Sixteen Years.' The boy I have now was secured in response to the sign and it was his answer more than his appearance that secured him the place.

"How was that?" queried the friend, with some interest.

"The boy slouched into the office and said he had read the sign. 'Do you want the place?' I asked him. 'Guess I do,' he replied, 'but I don't know that I would want it for the full sixteen years.' I employed him on the spot when I realized that I had omitted the comma from the sign."—Memphis Scimitar.

To be born without humor one loses two-thirds of life's enjoyment.

NORTH STATE MATTERS

Newsy Items Gleaned From Murphy to Manteo.

Charged with secretly assaulting Police Sergeant W. G. Crabtree at a late hour Friday night, Daniel Horton, a well-known young man who holds a position as clerk on Main street of Durham, is under a bond of \$3,000. He is also under an additional bond for \$100 for carrying concealed weapons. The alleged assault occurred on Main street, near midnight and is the outcome of an old trouble. Horton has been mad with the officer for some time and on Christmas day they had a fisticuff on Main street, the fight being a draw. Friday night Officer Crabtree was standing on Main street when he says that he noticed two men coming up the street, but paid no attention to them. The next thing he knew, so he says, was when he was struck in the back of the head with a pair of knucks. The blow dazed him and before he could recover Horton struck two other blows on the back of the head and one in the face. One wound two inches long was cut and there were other wounds and bruises. In his own defense Mr. Horton says that he did not assault the officer secretly. He says that he spoke to the officer and then struck him and that the first blow was in the face. Mr. Crabtree says that the first blow was in the back of the head. While the assault was still in progress three police officers, who were on the opposite side of the street, ran over and placed Horton under arrest. He was locked up and remained in prison some two hours when the mayor agreed to bail him in the sum of \$3,000 for secret assault and \$100 for carry a concealed weapon.

The rectory of Grace Episcopal church, of Morganton, was entirely consumed by fire Friday afternoon. The rectory was occupied by the family of Archdeacon Walter Hughson. Within the last few years the building was remodeled at a cost of \$2,000. Friday morning one of the chimneys took fire, and a colored servant was left on the premises, Mrs. Hughson being absent, to see that no damage was done by the sparks. Three or four hours later flames burst from the roof and despite hard work on the part of the citizens and the State Hospital fire brigade, the building was burned to the ground. Practically all of the furniture and Mr. Hughson's valuable library were saved, though considerably damaged. The loss on the building is \$2,500, with \$600 insurance in the Georgia Home. There was \$1,000 insurance on the furniture in the Carolina Insurance Company, of Wilmington.

The annual meeting of the State Literary and Historical Association will be held on the evening of January 23rd, in the music hall of the Oliver Raney Library. The program is as follows: Opening address on the "Work and Possibilities of the Association," by President Henry G. Connor; report of the "Hall of History," by Fred A. Olds; "Rural Libraries in North Carolina," (a) extent and operation, by J. Y. Joyner; (b) utility and possibilities, by Mrs. Lindsay Patterson; (c) discussion and suggestions; North Carolina biography for 1902 (a) "History," by D. R. Hill; (b) poetry, by H. J. Stockard; (c) periodical literature, by I. E. Avery. Claims of a State literature and history on our public schools; election of officers; organization of an authors' club in the association.

Suspicion is directed toward a white man as being the one who assaulted Mrs. Lillian Spivey near Fairview on September 29th. Sheriff Reed is now trying to find him. He escaped from Captain Melver's convict gang working on the railroad in Mitchell county on September 24th. The governor has offered a reward of \$300 for him as an escaped convict. For this assault a negro, Rus Jenkins, was tried and acquitted because the jury did not believe he was the man. Sheriff Reed and other officers never did think Jenkins was guilty, but thought the criminal was not a negro. The first circumstances after the crime led to this belief.

Mr. J. A. Abernethy, of Bincolnton, Saturday sold the Lincoln Cotton Mills, located near that town, to Mr. R. C. G. Love, of Gastonia, the amount involved being approximately \$300,000.

Zeb Wilson, recently elected State Senator from Yadon county, was killed last Tuesday at Burnsville by his brother, Hiram Wilson. It is reported that the brothers quarrelled in connection with the sale of a horse.

Mr. E. S. Reis, treasurer of the Charlotte council of the Royal Arcanum Saturday paid Mrs. Tom Wilson \$3,000, the amount of Mr. Wilson's insurance on the Arcanum. It was this Wilson who was killed by Arthur L. Bishop a few weeks ago.

Mrs. F. M. Johnson, of Asheville, was badly burned Saturday evening by a boiler explosion. She had placed a boiler, a patent affair on the stove and sealed it, when the explosion occurred. The contents of the boiling vessel were thrown all over Mrs. Johnson, inflicting serious injuries, but to what extent the physicians cannot yet tell.

Vestal Caudle, a young boy of Charlotte, died Friday from the effects of a wound received Christmas day from a toy pistol.

ONLY HIS CORPSE

Dead and Decaying Body of a Policeman Found.

Durham, Special.—News reached here that the remains of John Rogers, a policeman who disappeared from his home at Virginia, on the Norfolk & Western road, some eight weeks ago, were found near that station on Saturday by a party of hunters. The body was so badly decomposed that recognition was only possible by the watch and clothes of the deceased. The story told me tonight is that about eight weeks ago a negro was killed in Virginia. His body was found in the early morning and with the finding of the body Office John Rogers disappeared. It was generally supposed that Rogers killed him. Rogers had money in the bank and it was found that this had been taken from deposit.

Later the members of his family received a letter stating that Rogers had gone to Asheville and that he would not write again, but for them not to be uneasy.

This prevented uneasiness on the part of the family until the dead body was found Saturday by hunters. The supposition is that Rogers killed the negro, drew his money and attempted to get out of the country, but that he was run down by the friends of the dead negro, killed and then robbed. Rogers, it is said, was engaged to a well known young lady in the community. The whole matter is wrapped in mystery.

Silk Mill For High Point.

High Point, Special.—The large silk mill for this place, mention of which was made a few days ago, is a certainty. Interested parties are here and have bought five acres of ground from Mr. J. Elwood Cox, on which to erect the plant. Work on the buildings will commence at once. They will be of brick. The main building will be two stories and probably of 600 feet in length. The location is the Kendall property in the southern part of town. It is a private company, the interested parties being Swiss people. A higher class of labor than is found in cotton factories will be employed, as it will be much nicer. The force of hands will be increased as they are educated in the work. Over one thousand will be employed when the mill is in full blast. The raw silk will be shipped here direct from Japan and Italy and manufactured in all grades of silks. This is another addition to High Point's diversified manufactures, showing that many things are manufactured here besides furniture and it is hailed with delight by all.

Gould Gets Control.

New York, Special.—Announcement was made here that Frank Gould had obtained control of the Virginia Passenger and Power Company, which operates a traction system in Richmond, Va. The company has 122 miles of track in Richmond, Manchester and Petersburg, including an electric line 22 miles long, between Manchester and Petersburg. The deal was consummated through the Merchants' Trust Company, of this city, which is to be the fiscal agent and depository of the company's funds.

Heavy Eighting.

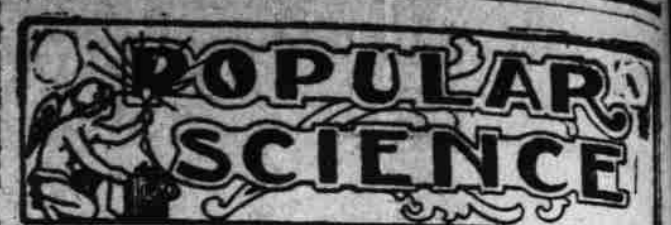
Caracas, By Cable.—Barquisimeto, capital of the State of Lara, which for some time past has been in the possession of the Venezuelan revolutionists, has been recaptured. The town of San Carlos and Tinaquillo have also been re-occupied by the government. The revolutionists at Barquisimeto were under the command of Generals Solagnie and Penaloza. They evacuated the town after losing 112 men killed and 325 wounded. There was hard fighting in the streets of Barquisimeto for two days.

Cotton Fire at Winstboro.

Winstboro, S. C., Special.—About 1:30 new years morning fire was discovered in the cotton on the south platform at the freight depot. About sixty bales were badly damaged and some nearly destroyed. By hard and quick work the burning bales were thrown from the platform, thereby saving the large freight depot. The loss is covered by insurance. The origin of the fire is not known.

Fire at Gadsden.

Gadsden, Ala., Special.—Fire started early Friday morning in a room over the Cudahy Packing Company and quickly spread to the railroad. Turrentine's wholesale grocery store and Turrentine bottling works. Three stores with their contents were destroyed. The loss is estimated at \$20,000; partially insured. Jos. Wilson, in whose room the fire is said to have originated, was burned to death, and W. H. Gewin, who occupied the room with him had a narrow escape.



Experiments by Professor E. Rutherford, reported to the Royal Society of Canada in Toronto, show that the wonderful substance, radium, from which a constant, invisible emanation takes place, is capable of sending its rays through from eight to ten inches of iron. The ionization produced by the rays after emerging from the iron shows, Professor Rutherford says, that they must be regarded as consisting of negatively charged particles.

In the Dutch East Indies lives a species of crabs which are accustomed to climb mangroves and palm-trees for the purpose, it is believed, of feeding upon the fruit. Mr. C. P. Sluiter, of Bantam, avers that he has seen these crabs climb to the top of trees fully sixty feet in height. Although he could not see plainly what they were about, he believes, from the behavior of captive specimens, that they opened young coconuts and devoured their contents. It is doubtful if they can break the shell of a ripe coconut.

Hay fever is a subject of perennial investigation. By inquiries among 400 persons at North Sea resorts, Dr. Thast has confirmed the assumption that its chief peculiarity is an idiosyncrasy of the olfactory nerve in respect to the odors of certain flowers, and that the only places absolutely free from it are those with scanty low vegetation without much blossoming. While no remedy will cure once for all in a few applications, the experience of these persons shows that it can be relieved and even cured by local treatment.

Physicists have concluded that the earth in its motion does not drag the ether along with it, and thus each body on the earth's surface, in virtue of its motion with the earth, is traversed by a stream of ether. The question thus arises: Does light travel through such a body with the same speed along the stream of ether as it does against it, or across it? The experiments of Michelson and Morley in America lead to an affirmative answer for air. Lord Rayleigh, in England, has obtained the same answer as to liquids and is now engaged on a research in respect to the phenomena relating to solids.

To an artist's eye the sharpness and the abundant details of what is ordinarily regarded as a fine photograph are things to be avoided. Amateur photographers sometimes share this impression, and seek, in various ways, to impart breadth and artistic feeling to the productions of their cameras. The late George M. Hopkins, widely known for his contributions to experimental science, suggested a very simple method of obtaining a soft, ethereal effect in a photograph by means of a translucent ground-glass slide through which the exposure is made. In this manner a negative is obtainable from which the finer details have been cut out, while the lights and shades are mellowed and a broad effect is secured. Such photographs, when artistically colored, produce nearly the impression of a painting.

Ancient Bracelets Found.

Four magnificent bracelets belonging to the Queen of King Zer, who reigned nearly 5000 B. C., were among the discoveries made by Professor Petrie while excavating at Abydos, Egypt. The workmanship of these is most ingenious and delicate. The finest bracelet is formed of alternating plaques of gold and turquoise, each surmounted with the royal hawk and paneled to imitate the front of the tomb or palace. This bracelet consists of thirteen gold and fourteen turquoise plaques in the form of a facade, whereupon was inscribed the name of the queen. The gold was worked by chisel and burnishing. The second bracelet had a centre piece of gold, with amethyst and turquoise heads and bands of braided gold wire. The fastening of the bracelet was by loops and button of a hollow ball of gold, with a shank of gold wire fastened in it. The third bracelet is of spiral beads of gold and lazuli in three groups. Making the fourth bracelet are four groups of hour-glass beads, amethyst between gold, with connections of gold and turquoise.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A Silent Zone.

That a powerful alarm like a fog siren can be sounded without being heard is shown by the investigations of E. P. Edwards on the English coast. At a distance of a mile from the siren the sound began to die away, and between two and three miles it was entirely inaudible, while beyond three miles it was again plainly heard. This mysterious "silent zone" constantly changed in extent and position.—Hartford Courant.

The Oldest Legislator.

Probably the oldest legislator in the world is M. de Thygesen, zu Damgaard, member of the Danish Parliament. He is ninety-seven.

Her Bridal Veil and Shroud.

The Japanese girl's bridal veil is put away after the ceremony, not to be used till her death, when it becomes her shroud.