

Another Sharon Beauty Elop



Now Willette Upsets Patrician Dignity by Running Off and Dancing in a Hotel

SVELTE
Characteristic Dancing Pose of Petits Willette Allen Smith in an Egyptian Number. Her Runaway Match Was Disapproved by Patrician Family.

"RUN off to Reno and get married!" seems to be the dauntless slogan of the lively and aristocratic "Sharon girls" of San Francisco.

Eight months ago, Frances Sharon Allen violently upset the equanimity of her conservative and patrician family by eloping with James Doud, a descendant of a Monterey cattle baron. An Iowa her sister, Willette—peppy, petite and precocious—has hopped off to the Nevada divorce mecca and married Robert Cooke Smith, 42, a Del Monte realtor, with poetic and artistic tendencies on the side. Willette is only twenty-three and the elders of her clan, resentful and baffled, are boiling like an overdue tea kettle.

It isn't the first time Willette has aroused their resentment, either. Back in 1922, when she coolly announced she was going to inaugurate a career as a dancer, the Sharons manifested unmistakable signs of hot botheration. It didn't get them a thing, however. Willette had been inspired to become a dancer by watching the stage work of her lovely young cousin, Ula Sharon, who married Carl Randall, also a "hooper." Disobeying parental edicts, they ran off and were secretly married. Later Ula sued for divorce, charging desertion.

Many and impassioned were the pleas to Willette from her wealthy mother, Mrs. Florence Sharon Brown, not to lower the family standards by standing with her foot at a quarter to six, and to these pleas were added the lamentations of her grandmother, stately old widow of Senator W. E. Sharon. Little Willette promptly signed up as a Keith-Orpheum circuit headliner and the next thing she knew Andreas Pavlar, of the Chicago Opera Company, made her premiere danseuse of his troupe and whooped the glittering path to l'Etrole Opera House in Paris and the Teatro Regis, Mexico City, was

swiftly paved for Willette's capering toes.

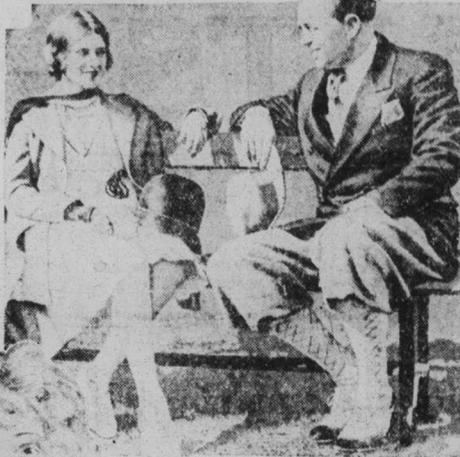
Just at the time that the agitated Sharons were awaiting Frances's return from Reno, Willette came back home and signed up to do her stuff at the Hotel Mark Hopkins. During the six months that she danced there she met Smith. Alarmed, the Sharon clan tried to discourage his ardent suit, but perversely Willette kept on seeing him—more and more.

Then one morning the family discovered to their horror that the self-willed girl had "lit out," been married, and was honeymooning in Del Monte.

Said Mrs. Sharon Brown: "That man will never be welcomed into my home." Said Mrs. Helen M. Sharon, the grandmother: "Oh!" and keeled over from shock, physicians said.

The honeymoon was marred by one most distressing event, Mrs. Myra E. Smith, first wife of the realtor-sonneteer-painter, appeared on the scene, enunciating "Gimme! Gimme!" She was referring to the \$100 a month alimony—for ten months—that she claimed the new bridegroom owed her. Smith, in court, shook his head sadly. "I'm broke," he admitted. Willette, he added proudly, was "a self-supporting girl." He dug into his pockets and exhumed fifty dollars, which he meekly handed over to Myra. "It's all I have," he said.

The (slightly) enriched Myra gave her personal views on the honeymooner, she had sued to recover back alimony in the Superior Court presided over by Judge Frank H. Dunne. She labeled



HONEYMOONING
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cooke Smith as They Looked During Their Bridal Stay at Del Monte, Cal. He is 42; She, 23.

Mrs. Helen M. Sharon, Widow of Senator W. E. Sharon, Who Looks Grim Whenever Anyone Mentions Her Granddaughter's Reno Wedding to Smith, the Realtor-Painter-Poet.

him "a scribbler of sonnets; the perpetual playboy, and a high-powered salesman." "He really oughtn't to have married again," she concluded. "He's not the matrimonially perfect type."

"Alimony?" queried Mrs. Smith, No. 1, with a light laugh and a toss of her head—and something suspiciously like a twinkle in her sparkling eyes. "Alimony? Don't mention the word to me. To pay alimony you have to have money. And Smith hasn't got anything, or at least much, to pay with."

"He ought to get out of this habit of getting married. He's a nice fellow, but he'll always be a playboy. Me? Yes, I had quite a bit of money when I married him, but it didn't last very long."

Curiosity was manifested by the interviewer as to Mr. Smith's status as an "artist, author and polo player," terms which had been frequently used to describe him and his activities. "Well, that's a slight exaggeration," commented the first Mrs. Smith. "It's true that he has written a few sonnets and has done a few little drawings for his own amusement. I admit that he's talented and it is a shame that he has accomplished so little with those talents. Essentially, he's a high-powered salesman."

While the Sharon family held pessimistic conferences in the seclusion of their handsome home, Willette remained blissfully indifferent to their worries over her hastily made match. She returned from the honeymoon

Another Striking Pose of Willette Doing Her Egyptian Stuff in a San Francisco Hotel.

intimations of catty people, that she had been forced to resort to "hoofing" again because of her husband's skimpy funds.

Over at the Sharon house, where Willette "had always had everything she wanted," doubt was expressed about her future happiness. How would she live? Where would the money come from? Could a real estate salesman earn enough to buy all those fine clothes to which she had become accustomed?

"I suppose Willette will keep on with her dancing career," was the resigned comment of her mother. "Otherwise, I can't for the life of me see how she's going to make out."

The mood of Sister Frances—herself a well-known dancer—was similar. Her criticisms were restrained in tone, but it was plainly apparent that she thought Willette's Reno excursion had been an error.

Willette herself took all this with commendable good nature. "Of course," she laughed, "And families get mad when their children marry without their consent. That's not unusual. As soon as I arrived in San Francisco, mother rang me up and wished me every happiness. She still doesn't approve of Mr. Smith and has refused to see him, but I'm sure it will all come right in the end."

Smith, meanwhile, was reported to be very active down Del Monte way real-estating. Even though temporarily separated by "injurious distance," the Smiths are blithely happy.

But the elder Sharons—? Old Man Gloom sure is sitting on their door step.

An Effective Close-up of Willette Allen Smith, Emphasizing Her Girlish Charm and Smiling Demolition.

radiating happiness and very sanguine about her future.

Even Sister Francis's (of all people) disapproval of the Reno-made marriage failed to dim the sunlight of her smile. The dancer and her adoring husband took a small downtown apartment and Willette resumed her work at the Hotel Mark Hopkins, thrilling onlookers with her sinuous Egyptian numbers and artistically scanty costumes. The

Health, Ability, Industry Are Essential to Success—Mitchell

As president of the National City Bank, Charles E. Mitchell has for years been the leader of America's largest financial institution, directing its manifold interests throughout the world. With the recent affiliation of that organization with the Farmers' Trust Company, Mr. Mitchell became the chairman of the board. He is one of the most progressive business men in the country, and has long been a recognized leader in constructive finance.

His business life started with the

else are essential. They may bore you, but the reward is enormous. You may possess all the qualities for success known to man, but if they must operate through a deficient body the handicap cannot be overcome.

"The next basic quality is character. Honesty a man must have in his dealings with others, but, above all, with himself. You may at times be able to 'put something over' on others, but don't be such a fool as to fool yourself. You must be your own most critical judge; your verdict must be backed by honesty. Then you must be loyal to the best standards, and you must develop courage to do and dare physically and mentally, remembering that conservatism will save many a mistake. "Then there is that great essential of personality which a man requires a

hundredfold if he would lift his head above the crowd. It is difficult to describe the qualities of personality—so many of them perhaps are God-given. Yet such things as graciousness of manner, democracy, good fellowship in the best sense of the word, presence, bearing, the selection of appropriate language and expression—and a dozen other qualities are the weather vanes of character that indicate personality. They can be developed, and where you find them lacking there is usually some flaw in character or training.

"Personality reflects character, and if your character be right your personality will, to a great extent, be right. "Without education a man cannot advance in the banking business. I know of no profession that demands the never-ending study that is de-

manded by the banking profession. But at the bottom of everything must be industry—the determination, the will to succeed against all odds, the will to study. It is initiative and decision perhaps more than any other quality that will carry a man above the crowd. It takes initiative to find new methods—the courage to get away from the beaten track—to offer new ideas and to stand for them if you believe them to be right. "Ability without industry, or industry without ability, is useless. One without the other is worth nothing. Brilliance may carry a man forward very rapidly, but his position cannot be sustained without industry, and industry may carry a man to a certain point, but never higher unless he can add brilliance."



CHARLES E. MITCHELL,
Chairman of the Board of the National City Organization.

Western Electric Company. He joined the Trust Company of America and later formed his own banking firm. He was offered the vice-presidency of the National City Bank in 1916 when that old institution decided to organize its own company for the nation-wide distribution of bonds. In 1921 he was elected president, which post he held until the recent merger, when he became chairman of the board.

"Health, character and high ideals, personality, education and the pursuit of knowledge, unceasing industry and decision and, of course, ability, by which I mean knowledge and understanding, are the essential and basic qualities needed to gain a high place in the competition of life," says Mr. Mitchell.

"The fundamental quality is health. The physical body, the most delicate of all mechanisms, will stand a lot of wear and strain if, and only if, it be given reasonable attention. Common sense must be shown in what one eats and drinks. Moderation and regularity will govern the habits of the man who knows that his body is the basis on which his success and career must be predicated. Immoderation surely will take its toll. Regular sleep and exer-

By Clare Murray, New Girl Poet-Artist

A LADY OF LEISURE

(On the Riverbank)

Rain sweeps the street
With a furious broom,
And a few lone stragglers
Scuttle for shelter.
I, safe and warm in my limousine, roll
Indifferently on my way.

What are storms—
No matter how violent?
I am protected here
Where for years I had longed to be.
I scarcely remember
Those turbulent days of my labor,
Ambition, and fear....
My failure....
The shuddering quiet....
My trembling despair....

I welcomed the way of escape,
Luxury I never could earn is mine,
Yet I am a being walking in sleep,
Whose footfalls leave no mark, no sound;
A being serene, unmoved,
Though chasms open and yaw.
I am empty, devoid of emotion,
Is my body divorced from my soul?
Maybe the croon of my senses
Has lulled my soul into stupor....



"A being walking in sleep, whose footfall leaves no mark, no sound."

