

Woman Rated at One-Tenth Cow's Value in Serbia

Good Looking, Healthy Wife Can Be Bought for \$30—Defects Lower Price.

Belgrade, June 17.—"Mr. Markovitch, I like your daughter. If you can guarantee that she has no wooden leg, one eye or false hair, how much?"

"Fifteen hundred dinars." "It's a bargain." Mr. Markovitch's daughter leaves the paternal bedside arm in arm with her new possessor and becomes automatically a wife. Just like that, Mr. Markovitch counts his dinars.

So says Dr. Charles L. Outland, who is returning to the United States with his wife, a former Richmond society girl, after liquidating the work of the American Friends service committee in the Patriotic League of Serbia, on the Albanian border.

"A woman is rated at one-tenth the value of a cow," he added. "You can buy a fairly good looking, healthy wife for 1,500 dinars, about \$20 in American currency. Arrangements financially have to be made with the father, but once you get the wife she's yours forever and ever. There are no divorce laws in Petch. Of course, you can recall her, if she doesn't make good."

Defects Lower Price. "If a girl happens to have some defect, physically or mentally, the prospective lover lowers his bid, maybe down as low as 500 dinars, or about \$12. If the family has pawned off a bride as a perfect piece of feminine goods when she has a wooden leg the next day the husband returns the bride to her home and collects his money."

Turks Go Armed. "My wife and I, however, have never been molested, and we have wandered throughout the hills of Albania, Montenegro, and southern Serbia. The Turks in these hills go armed with a pistol in their belt, a knife in each stocking, and can usually reveal several more deadly looking articles of miscellaneous cutlery. But their natures are far different from their appearance."

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An account of cupid's threads in the ranks of co-ed members of the graduating class as revealed at the annual farewell banquet, admits of a reasonable excuse for the query. More than a thousand senior girl students, presided over by Miss Olive Pressler, retiring president of the Associated Women Students, registered enthusiastic surprise when the roll of marriages and engagements of '22 proved to be a record-breaker.

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The Hand on the Shoulder

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slightly toward him, and he listened attentively, nodding his assent. She had played the role of sister to a considerable number of young men at college, who sought her counsel in their perplexities.

"Frances says just those things to me. She's awfully wise, even if she is young. She's just 20, you know." "All the more reason you should show her the greatest consideration you'd be a brute to wound her."

"You're a hard person to say no to, Mr. Fearing," Marian laughed. "Thank you; it's certainly kind of all of you to want me."

"This is quite bulky! We'll invade your privacy within 30 minutes." The ladies fled from the room as Paul, unable as he was to resist, turned to see who was coming.

"I've encountered women lawyers now and then in other parts of the country, but never home," he said. "I will say for the American Portia that she is an opponent worthy of all respect. Not so long ago I lost a case to a woman in Chicago, he added, with a rueful smile; "she won it on its merits, not by trickery."

"I'll have to be a lawyer myself," said Paul, "if I ever have any."

"You're a lawyer, aren't you?" "I'm a lawyer," he said, "but I'm not a lawyer."

stated that was second nature to one long used to addressing himself to the highest tribunal, it seemed incredible that he could fail to bring the same powers of analysis and reasoning to bear upon matters that touched intimately his own life.

"That's a good class," he remarked, as they drove Marian home. "I span my yarn longer than I intended, because I felt they were interested. And, Miss Ward, you won't be displeased to know that the dean told me you're one of the best students. In fact, he was quite eloquent about you. Says you're bound to have a brilliant future."

"I'm going to take all my cases to Marian," declared Frances. "I'm always getting in trouble for parking in the wrong places."

"That's a blow!" ejaculated Paul. "You forget that I'm trying to be a lawyer and need your business."

When they reached the boarding house Frances urged Marian to go with her to the Country club for luncheon the following Saturday.

"You don't have to work in the afternoon, and we can wander about, or keep on motoring if you'd rather."

John B. Fearing thereupon announced that he would play golf with him, as all the men he knew looked upon him as a hopeless duffer, and it would relieve the greatest embarrassment if he would walk over the course with him. Feeling that to refuse when there was no questioning their sincerity would be rude, Marian accepted.

John B. Fearing had not exaggerated his deficiencies as a golfer. He played atrociously, as Marian quickly discovered. But he was entirely good natured about it. He averaged two strokes to her one, and as the links was crowded their slow progress was not without its embarrassments. But, ignoring the pressure behind, he talked unconcernedly of matters wholly unrelated to golf. In her sport suit that she dug out only occasionally when she visited a public link, Marian played with skill and certainty.

"How did that ever happen?" exclaimed Fearing with mock astonishment, after missing an easy putt. "You took your eye off it. It might help your game if you'd remember certain passages in Cooley on Torrs, which I'll refer to in connection with your negligence. You'd save yourself a lot of trouble."

He liked her chaffing, and invited it by his comments on his wretched playing. Young people usually were afraid of him, but Marian treated him quite as though he were of her own age, and to a man who has reached the middle distance flattery offers nothing more beguiling. Her playing method interested him; it was definite, carefully calculated, and yet she swung at a ball with freedom and ease that made her driving a delight to watch.

At the ninth hole he asked solicitously whether she had suffered enough, but she declared that it would be cowardly to quit.

"You are a forbearing person," he said, and they finished the 18th hole. Paul and Frances were still on the links, and after taking a shower she waited in a quiet corner of the veranda until Fearing appeared.

"Anything liquid in the constitution of the United States is yours," he said cheerfully. "This is the best part of the game—the right to sit down feeling that you've done a virtuous thing and that you needn't bother again for at least a week."

"Your enthusiasm for the game is delightful," laughed Marian. "The history professor at college held exactly your views!"

Frances and Paul changed their plans suddenly and decided to be married in June. In spite of the rush of prenuptial entertaining, Frances found time to look in upon Marian now and then at the office.

"You're certainly making it hard for him!" said Frances one noon over a department store luncheon. "Mrs. Adams was terribly peeved that you refused her invitation to dinner. She's awfully keen about you. There's something queer about you, Marian; nobody seems to hate you! But what's going to happen if you dodge the dear man every chance you get. He's getting desperate."

"It isn't pleasant to be dodging a man you admire, of course," said Marian. "But you ought to see that the gulf is too wide. Oh, not his years but 10,000 other things."

"I believe you're in love as much as I am," said Frances. "And isn't love wonderful?"

"No, it's perfectly awful!" Marian returned. "The night of the wedding Mrs. Adams took charge of Marian, carrying her to the Dennings and keeping close beside her."

"You needn't be afraid of any of these people. If you find them staring at you it's only because you're so handsome."

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that the rest of the world had gone away and left her. "I didn't know it could happen," Fearing was saying quietly. "I thought I was beyond all that. Every day you fill my mind and heart. You came at a time when I needed help, though you didn't know—yet you couldn't have known. I love you; I love you very dearly. I should be so proud of you—Marian!"

It is possible that Bob Reynolds, madly searching the premises for his missing dancing partner, did not see their first kiss. Marian suspects that he did. (Copyright, 1922, by Meredith Nicholson.)

65 Cadets Training at Florida Flying Field Washington, June 17.—Sixty-five student officers and cadets are receiving primary flying instruction at Carlstrom Field, Arcadia, Florida, according to a report from the flying officer of the War department.

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Dr. Lorenz Says Science of World Must Look to U. S. Paris, June 17.—"The science of the world must in the future look to America. There savants are not hindered by monetary considerations nor by the fear of novelty so prevalent in Europe." This statement was made by Dr. Adolf Lorenz, famous Vienna surgeon, when he returned to Europe after astounding America with the magic of his skill. Lorenz, who is a complete hygienic facility than we are in Europe. "I was amazed with the progress American medicine has made since I was first there, 19 years ago, for the purpose of operating on Miss Lollin Armour. Then American surgeons looked to Paris, Vienna and Berlin. Today it is Paris, Vienna and Berlin who must look to America."

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