

# Stillman Case Brings Up Question, 'Are Divorce Tendencies Inherited?'

## Separations in a Number of Proud and Wealthy American Families Seem to Bear Out Theory. Daughters Likely to Seek Same Solace From Marital Unhappiness As Mothers.

**By MARGERY REX.**

New York, April 2.—Many mothers leave their daughters an inheritance of beauty or charm. Others bequeath jewels and old lace. Some women relinquish wealth to their daughters, some a proud name.

Is it possible for the tendency to divorce to be left as an inheritance from mother to daughter?

The story of the Stillmans is now common property. As prologue to the unhappy drama is the life story of the beautiful and accomplished mother of Mrs. Anne Urquhart Stillman. She is Cora Brown Potter, divorced by a stern husband who did not approve of her espousal of a stage career.

Now "Bill," her daughter, is undergoing much the same experience, except that James A. Stillman makes charges of a nature entirely different than those upon which the Potter divorce was secured—in that case abandonment.

Tendencies run through families. Even divorce would appear to be inherited if one were to judge by some noted examples of family groups in which marital happiness seems impossible to achieve.

**Disposition Can Be Inherited.**

While the actual desire to divorce would not, of course, be inherited, nevertheless the disposition of character that would demand freedom from an unpleasant situation could be transmitted from parent to child. We know that certain diseases which are supposed by many to be "inherited," positively cannot be handed down from parent to offspring.

But a predisposition can be transmitted from a mother to her children.

People may say, for instance, that in such and such a family they have all "inherited" a certain malady, but the fact probably is that from one or the other parent the children have received a tendency to develop such a disease, and perhaps living in such conditions as fostered the disease in the parent, have, themselves acquired it.

It is quite likely that a tendency to social disease, divorce for example, might be present as well as the disposition to develop a bodily ill.

**Powerful Force of Example.**

A proud and independent spirit which would make a mother break away from marital bondage, when likewise, might be transmitted to a daughter. The daughter, in turn, might find life so unpleasant with her husband that her high-strung nature would prompt her to get a divorce or, in the event of her leaving such a husband, might cause him to divorce her.

Added to such a spirited nature there would be one of the greatest forces in the world, the force of example.

The mother's example will always impel a daughter. In a moment of doubt she will be very apt to do as her mother has done in a like quandary.

Daughters of divorcees, deep in

marriage difficulties, will be likely to decide upon divorce themselves.

**Many in Family.**

The "Fashionable Frenchs," of New York and Newport, exemplify one case in which a mother who was divorced had two divorced daughters, a divorced aunt, and numerous other matrimonial complications throughout various branches of her family.

Mrs. LeRoy French in 1914 divorced Amos Tuck French. Mrs. Julia French Geraghty, one of her daughters, in 1919 divorced Jack Geraghty, her chauffeur husband. Mrs. Polly French Wagstaff, known as the beautiful Pauline LeRoy French, divorced Samuel Wagstaff in June, 1920.

On March 11 last Mrs. Wagstaff was married to Donald Oliver McRae, a clerk employed by the Central Union Trust company, five years her junior.

But the first of the French family to seek a divorce was the lovely sister of Amos Tuck French, Elsie, who married and later sought freedom from the late Alfred Vanderbilt. In 1919 she suddenly married a naval ensign who was ten years her junior, Paul Fitz-Simon.

One of the great difficulties, so it is said, in the problem of the Huhns living amicably together was the fact that both had been married before. Huhn's children by a first marriage did not like the idea of Ethel Huhn, the child of the second union, inheriting any of the Huhn wealth.

**Bailey-Huhn Romance Shattered.**

Then came little Ethel Huhn's romance with Joseph W. Bailey, Jr., a training cadet met Ethel not long ago when she was a debutante. Bailey was the son of a former senator from Texas. The affair was called a "perfect story book romance." The two were married, but last fall it was rumored that the young people had separated and that a divorce action would be lodged in legal court.

Family heartburnings and money wrangles are said to have separated the parents of pretty Ethel. Is it surprising, then, that when her own marital problems became troublesome she thought of divorce?

Huhn's daughter by her first marriage also followed in her parent's footsteps when she decided to become divorced from Andrew J. Carthy, of Philadelphia, with whom, according to statements made to friends, she became "irritably bored." A son by that first marriage of Huhns is also separated from his wife, who, it is rumored, to divorce him.

In a family that has never known the pangs of the legal rending apart that constitutes divorce it seems a strange and terrible thing. It looms up as a devastating, scandalous affair, something to make every member of the family hang his or her head in shame.

But, once experienced, this legal process does not seem so terrifying. When a daughter of a divorced mother is herself suffering from unhappy marital experiences, it is surprising that she seeks the solace that she knows divorce gave her mother?

# Creighton Glee Club Returns to Omaha For Concert April 14 At Brandies



**First Row**—Robert Fitzsimmons, incidental artist; Joseph Kealy; Grattan Fitz Gibbon, secretary; Harry Burkley, business manager; J. Clifford Young, president; Charles Kruger, librarian; Elias Camel; Matthew J. Severn, bass soloist; Claude J. O'Donnell, violinist.

**Second Row**—Fred Wachtler, Joseph Moylan, Adrian Zeman, Louis Barkmier, Theodore Serr, Joseph Grace, Robert Burkley, Harry McGlone, Julius Berger, William Klemm.

**Third Row**—John Otte, Bernard Stone, Harold Downing, J. Sterling Maddox, John J. Foley, Brendan Brown, Paul Koehn.

**Fourth Row**—George Koehn, Julius Humphrey, Ralph Svoboda, Sidney Barsom, David Kavanaugh, Willard Kranz.

**Back Row**—William McTaggart, Frank Diederich, Vernon Edwards, John Vasko, Charles Rain.

## World Air Center Is Now Located In French Town

Miles of Landing Fields Flanked by Almost Unbroken Lines of Landing Fields at Le Bourget.

(Chicago Tribune-Omaha Bee Foreign News Service.)

Paris, April 2.—Le Bourget, to the northeast of Paris, lays claim to being the aerial center of the world. Color is given to the assertion that at this field is to be found aviation in its most advanced and well organized form by the suspension of the last British air service between London and Paris, and by the apparent reluctance with which the congress of the United States comes to the support of aerial development.

## He Reporter Finds Much Is Bared In Women's New Spring Styles

The charm and beauty of woman's wearing apparel is never fully appreciated by man, especially when outlined and described in the style sheets. The writers, all of feminine gender or type, use so many technical phrases in describing milady's gowns that it is all Greek to mere man. As man usually pays for the pretties of woman it is only just that he know what he is paying for and that he be forewarned what is to come. That they may fully understand the styles for women, for spring and summer, the styles have been investigated and written in plain language.

We will start with coloring. Of course without color woman is like the rose without its fragrance. Colors this season will be riotous. Dispensing with all Greenwich Village titles the colors are wearing this year and speaking man fashion, we find the predominating colors will be blue, robin's egg blue, box car brown, barber pole red, turkey and in some instances, chicken red, battleship gray, high brown, low down black, purity white and bathing beach tan.

**Can't Agree.**

Starting with hats and going down. The hats will be of no set style. It appears as though all the milliners met in convention and couldn't come to any agreement as to the style of headgear they would popularize.

The hats are large, shading the face from the hot sun. This does not need to be had news for for the furcrows of irrede cream and tannation. There will be more than the usual demand for them, because the neck, way down, arms, knees and ankles will be at the mercy of Sol as the length of the skirts has been shortened.

The hats are of various shapes, sizes, colors, textures and prices. Pearl gray for the misses and battleship gray for the sophisticated, will be the prevailing modes.

Among dresses the evening gown is discussed first, because it is the most swagger and hardest to understand. These dresses or gowns are usually worn at theater parties, balls and parties.

These social functions have long been the means of getting people better acquainted.

**Answers Conjectures.**

Men, knowing little of their neighbor's wife or even their own, can come away from a social function feeling on most intimate terms with them. This evening dress fills a long-felt want and proves an answer to many conjectures made at random.

The prevailing colors will be black, a dirty deep black, gray, white, pearl and flesh.

The flesh color is the happy idea of a Hastings (Neb.) modiste.

This modiste declared, on introducing her first flesh-colored gown that by popularizing flesh color, inquisitive men could be entertained during the evening with other than what was on the program.

They could amuse themselves by making bets among themselves as to where the material left off and the flesh began.

**Place for Arms and Head.**

In every-day wear organdie is a very popular material for afternoon and evening wear.

There isn't much to the waist. Just a place to stick the head and



arms through, set off with a few ruffles. The waist or belt line is very decided and the skirt is full, falling to the knees in a series of tucks and gathers.

It isn't necessary to fit this dress. As long as the waist is plenty tight everything else is k. o. for in a slight wind the dress will fit in figure like the paint on the kitchen wall.

Organdie is a very blowable. The stockings in most parts, match the dresses. Plain blues, tans, whites, grays. Most of the stockings are clogged and will bear watching. Sixteenth and Farnam on a breezy day is the best place for this.

With organdie dresses a woman is at a great disadvantage as only the most militant will attempt to wear them in the sun. This will keep all feminine traffic on the shady side of

## Chautauqua Show To Be Produced In British Isles

Mark Twain's Cousin to Carry Hawaiian Troupe to England to Start Movement There.

London, April 2.—The "Chautauqua movement" has at last spread to England and another link has thus been forged in the bonds uniting the British Isles with its dominions and America.

Miss Mildren Clemens, cousin of Mark Twain, is the American lecturer, who has decided to bring the "Chautauqua" to the attention of the British people. In discussing its venture, Miss Clemens said:

**Is Forerunner.**

"We are anxious to introduce the Chautauqua movement into England and elsewhere, so that all English speaking peoples may be brought into closer relationship."

"My little show is not exactly a 'Chautauqua,' but it is its forerunner. I have toured with it all over America, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, and I hope it will prove the beginning of a great interchange of speakers throughout the United States, the British Isles and the dominions."

**Meets Prince.**

"My miniature Chautauqua consists of the presentation of 'Happy Hawaii.' I have six native assistants who sing and dance in the native fashion and I show a number of moving and still pictures illustrative of life in the islands."

"My cousin, Mark Twain, visited the islands 50 years ago. It was a great pleasure to me to follow where he had been."

"I met the charming prince of Wales in Honolulu. I never found anyone more truly democratic. He is a great sport."

## Shape of Boy's Hands May Win Grandfather's \$130,000

A little boy's hands may win his granddaddy a \$130,000 legacy—the estate of the late John O'Connor, Hastings shoemaker-recluse, who died August 16, 1913.

The little fellow is Harold Kirkman, 6, grandson of John F. Kirkman, 1538 North Sixteenth street. A curious overlapping of the little finger on each hand, as illustrated in the picture, is relied upon to establish whether he is of the same line as O'Connor.

Kirkman claims O'Connor was really Matt Kirkman of Greenboro, N. C., his father.

**Hands as Evidence.**

The hearing, originally set for May in Hastings, has been postponed until the fall term of court, notice came this week, according to S. A. Harris of an Omaha law firm, which is handling Kirkman's case.

Fully 50 photographs of the Kirkman family, exhibiting a family trait of crooked little fingers and extraordinary long thumbs and great toes, will be introduced in evidence.

The late O'Connor was distinguished by the same peculiarities. Hastings friends will testify. Trackings of his hands to show this, will be introduced.

The body of O'Connor was exhumed after two years' burial in order that photographs might be taken. These photos bear a striking resemblance to the Omaha claimant.

Two other photos, said to have been part of O'Connor's effects, will have an important bearing in the case.

**Principals Dead.**

One is the photo of a woman and child. Kirkman claims the woman is his mother, Matt Kirkman's wife, and the baby is himself. He met a vain trait to Greensboro in an attempt to locate a duplicate of the photo among his relatives. The other photo is that of a bearded man whom the eastern relatives identify as "Boss" Edwards, husband of Nancy Kirkman, Matt's sister. All these principals are now dead.

The Omaha Kirkman, former president of the Omaha Auto Body company, is spending his all to establish his claim of relationship to O'Connor.

Matt Kirkman, a shoemaker, deserted his wife, Mary, Trickman Kirkman and his son John, when the latter was four years old.

**Boudoir Bag Is the Latest**

London, April 2.—The boudoir bag is one of fashion's latest novelties. Quaint-shaped bags of silk, brocade or crepe de chine in color to match that of the whole toilet are now all the rage.

## Hubby Cooks As Wify Works But Plan Is Failure

### She Just Couldn't Stand to See Him Walking Around With Baby in One Arm, Milk in Other.

Baltimore, Md., April 2.—This story has to do with a wage-earning young wife who, after switching jobs with her equally young husband, balked and kicked for better food. One meal cooked by her husband was enough, according to Mrs. Mary Sheldon, 21, and she repented her agreement and quit.

Mrs. Sheldon agreed in court before Justice Joseph Ranft to go to work and make a living for the family if her husband, Edward Sheldon, also 21, would stay home, cook and take care of the baby.

After seeing her husband walking about the house with an apron tied around him, the baby on one arm and a bottle of milk in the other—well, she just couldn't stand it.

**Must Have Food.**

A few hours after the Sheltons had returned to their home following their interview with Justice Ranft, the young husband started in on supper. Right there when they sat down to that meal together Mrs. Sheldon repented her bargain and determined she would not go on with it. The young wife forthwith hunted up Mayor William F. Broening at her home. To the city's chief executive she unfolded her troubles.

"I said cook," she told Mayor Broening, in the talk with "his honor," to whom she hurried from the supper table. "You just ought to have seen what he gave me to eat. If I am going to go out and make my living, you got to have a good meal. Not the kind of a meal he gave me." veremently declared the young wife.

**She Tries 'Em.**

"And I just couldn't stand the sight of him contented to walk around with an apron tied around him and the baby on one arm and a bottle of milk in the other. I just can't go on with it and I came to you for advice."

The mayor sent Mrs. Sheldon to the state's attorney's office and there she saw Assistant State Attorney Herbert O'Connor. Mr. O'Connor has the spirit of conciliation in large measure. He believes that a man and his wife should agree if there is any way in the world to manage it.

"Try his meals a little while longer," suggested O'Connor.

Mrs. Sheldon's eyes got big and her mouth opened.

Mrs. Sheldon's mouth shut again without any sound. She'd follow his advice. The expression on her face indicated she'd wait before she did anything further in the matter of prosecuting her husband, but she wouldn't eat his meals. "No," she wouldn't do that.

"If you don't agree to wear a man's job for him," O'Connor assured her.

"Maybe women are allowed to vote," interrupted Mrs. Sheldon in answer to a question. "But that hasn't got anything to do with it. This is an upside-down arrangement, and I am not going to stand it. He says a woman in a house has a 'cincin' and that he wishes' he could spend the rest of his days in such a soft berth. Well, he won't," came with some evidence of defiance from the young wife.

Just 12 hours after Mrs. Sheldon made the suggestion that she get a job and support the family while her husband did the housework Mrs. Sheldon had exercised the woman's prerogative and changed her mind. A quarrel took place and the young husband packed up his clothing and departed. Edward, "the model housewife," was later arrested at the home of his mother, and again faced Justice Ranft, who held Sheldon in \$300 bail.

Thus a feminist metaphor, model 1921, was shattered.

## Creighton Has Menagerie For Medics' Experiments

Part of Professor Schaefer's Menagerie makes the experiment seem less inhuman.

Meat Their Doom.

The star members of the professor's collection were two alligators which were donated by a friend last year, but which have already met their doom on the dissecting table. However, a number of peculiar frogs and lizards, still remain, but will be no more before the school year is over.

Cats are usually disposed of as soon as possible, for the reason that they must be segregated or else they carry on a continual warfare. Many a deadly battle has been fought in the old attic between two or more felines until the result was the same as that of the celebrated Kilkenny cats.

The most indifferent and unsuspecting members of the group are the pigeons, which strut about in their cage cooing to each other.

## Huge British Aircraft Has Berths for 50 Passengers

London, April 2.—The first civil airship (R-36), with sleeping accommodations for 50 people, will shortly be in commission.

The ship will be the first to come under the control of the Civil Aviation department.

In the passenger car there will be folding beds, curtained off, and wash basins. Tables will be provided for meals.

The intention is at first to make experimental flights in passenger and cargo carrying, and it is proposed to send R-36 on a round trip to Egypt and back in the near future.

## Bay Rum Bares Haircuts And Shaves Stolen by Trio

Atlanta, Ga., April 2.—Three negroes broke into a barbershop here during the night and gave each other a haircut and shave, face massage, hair tonic rub, etc. What a case for a Sherlock Holmes. The hair on the floor, the hair tonic odor, etc. Out went the officers with a sample of the bay rum tonic. And in a jiffy three negroes, cleanly shaved, with hair cropped close and simply reeking with hair tonic, were landed in jail. Marvellous.

## Events of the Week in Omaha

**THE PRODIGAL RETURNS**  
WELCOME M'SON!

**YOU'RE FIRED!**  
FEWER ACCIDENTS MARCH

**THEY ARE DOING SOME SPECULATING THESE DAYS.**  
CITY CANDIDATES

**WIN WIN WIN WIN WIN**  
**LOSE LOSE LOSE LOSE LOSE**

**CONSUMER**  
**RECKLESS DRIVER**  
**BARKER**