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MURRAY SIMONSKI Superintending Editor

Woman's Inhumanity to Woman

VERY time a convention of women meets some sort of a demand for a single moral standard of judgment of the sexes is somehow or other

Now the mothers' congress has been deploring that men are not judged as

That a great wrong is done by the double standard of judgment must be apparent to everybody. But the women themselves are almost wholly responsible for the injustice that they sporadically so grievously

ustice that they sporadically so grievously condemn.

They have long arrogated to themselves all censorship of the sexual relations. They have taken up the seventh commandment as the golden rule of conduct and magnified the guilt of its violation so far beyond that of other rules of right living that the comparatively easy tolerance with which men even of spotless lives look upon such sins is often urged. lives look upon such sins is often urged against them as a reproach.

So in this matter the women have led

and the men rather apathetically followed.

and the men rather apathetically followed. And what have women led us to? Woman's loyalty to her sex, as a sex, is proverbial. Any unfavorable comment upon women in general is vigorously resented by women in particular. This spirit is very admirable, but it is based upon vanity and like many another admirable quality having the same basis, extends no further than vanity requires. Woman feels that an attack upon her sex is a re-

tack upon her sex is a re-flection upon herself. This is the secret of boasted loyalty.

the secret of boasted loyalty.

But let an individual woman be harshly criticized—
do her sisters eagerly rush forward in her defence? Do they show resentment?

Hardly ever.

There may be a few that withhold judgment until the truth may be established and some that condemn with feeble show of deprecation, but in general women may be depended upon to seize upon the erring one in a spirit that is equalled only by the ferocity of wolves that set upon one of their number that has fallen, and rend it limb from limb. from limb.

This sounds harsh, but is it more than

There is no record of any woman being present when Christ saved the adulteress from being stoned, it is true. Had there been, we might have had a different record.

And now women, having established not only social death but social damnation as the punishment meted to their number for violation of the law, have the grace to confess that there is something wrong, and repeatedly resolve in favor of a single standard of judgment. The trouble is not that we have no uniform standard, but that we have no standard at all.

The Self-Injury in Lying

T birth, all of us were liars, more or A less. This is because lying is the diplomatic refuge of helplessness. The instant we learn to know punishment, desire to esape from it becomes a prime instinct.

Morality, like knowledge, is not hereditary, but attained. The child must learn that lying is a sin and a self-injury, just as it must learn by being burnt to avoid

Until this lesson is learned, the child, youth, man, will continue to lie. Many never learn it. Perhaps none ever learn it thoroughly.

Lying comes not of aggressive shrewdness, but of cowardice and of a shallow cunning that is often treacherous and tricks the lie into transparency.

But it is not the danger of being found

out by others that is most to be dreaded; far more dreadful is it that the liar must know himself to be a liar.

His self-respect suffers—the leaven in him loses strength and leaves him dead The cunning that leads to lying is a rot that must permeate the whole character and make a man uncertain of himself. It distorts his perspective, obscures his vision, and warps his comprehension.

The habit of misrepresentation leads to misconception, the judgment becomes as erratic as the tongue, and there results the man who "couldn't tell the truth if he wanted to."

Nothing so shakes the confidence of one's friends as known lying does; nothing so shatters one's own self-confidence as does lying, whether known to others or not.

The cowardice that fathers lying increases with the lie. Fear of detection joins with self-contempt in making the liar a greater coward than before. One lie calls for another in its defense. The poet sold it thus. said it thus:
"O, what a tangled web we weave,

When first we practise to deceive!"

This tangled web makes it all the harder for the liar to succeed in even an honest undertaking. His lies are a chain and ball upon his foot. They are a beam in his eye and a weight on his heart. He flounders along, most of his energy being required to overcome the impediment, while the truthful man easily outstrips him.

The lying cheat in the Vicar of Wakefield, who was always swindling everybody, died in jail for debt, while his honest neighbor, who was swindled a thousand times, steadily prospered and died rich and respected. Fiction—eh?

Well it is immortal as fiction because it is fact, the world over, all the time.

The Promise to Obey This tangled web makes it all the harder

The Promise to Obey

The Promise to Obey

THE wife's obedience to her husband does not depend upon the spoken promise at all. It depends upon herself and upon him. If she finds him to be a man worth obeying she will obey and be glad to do it. If he is not masterful enough in his judgment and purposes and manner to command her obedience, a thousand promises would not bind her.

It is not any word of scripture, or law, or a promise in the marriage service that makes the husband the senior and ruling partner, but nature and the force of circumstances. The secret force lies in her character as well as in his.

The omission of the word in the service is

character as well as in his.

The omission of the word in the service is not new, and it has never been apparent that it makes the slightest difference.

But the formal filing of a "bill of right," signed, sealed and delivered, which has just marked a marriage ceremony, is an innovation. True, it can be of no more force and effect than the simple omission of the word obey, but it has the advantage of the word obey, but it has the advantage of being original.

In this signed contract is set forth what the husband and wife mutually agreed in marriage were the rights and privileges and prerogatives of each.

and prerogatives of each.

Such a contract is utterly useless, for there is no means of enforcing it. If, on the very first day of wedlock, the husband should violate every one of the restrictions put upon him, what could the wife do about it? She could not dissolve the marriage contract. Courts would not consider her agreement at all. She would find her document a foolish thing, of no use to her, and an object of unfeeling ridicule.

It is worse than worthless, for the coldblooded agreement that eliminates senti-ment leaves marriage barren of the sweet impulses and the tender sacrifices that alone can consecrate it.

Little Broken Promises

PROMISE that is worth making is a promise that is worth keeping, no matter how small the obligation it would seem to incur. If you promise to meet a friend at a given hour, keep that promise to the minute. It betokens the weakest sense of moral responsibility continually to make little promises that are never intended to be kept. The orgie of broken engagements hovers about the daily lives of some people who have had the sad experience of broken promises until their faith in human honesty is almost

