

Highly Commended

THE ability to give and take, and a sense of humour—these two things I would certainly place first in the necessities of a successful marriage. Much depends, of course, on what people consider the success of a marriage, but I cannot believe that there would be any success without these two. Others are needed too—good health, similarity of tastes, some children, and love and understanding of each other. So long as people retain a sense of humour it will carry them over many a dark place, and if they are willing to give way to each other in little things, then they can be depended upon to stand together when the big things of life have to be faced.—Sally, Otago.

IN MY opinion, compatibility is the secret of a successful marriage. To look at things in the same light, and above all to laugh at the

FRIENDSHIP TODAY

Friendship may be the only lamp left burning,

In days when we must black out every light.

Friendship may be a signpost at each turning,

When not a place-name may be left in sight.

Friendship may be a luxury still left us,
When to spend money is not right or wise:

Friendship is gladness, laughter, song and sunshine,

When overhead are dark and threatening skies.

Whatever else we give or lose or lessen,
Let's hold our friendships sacred, in an hour

When life needs all the beauty we can bring it,

Growing at our heart's doors, in radiant flower.

same things, is a very great help towards getting on together. To be pals in the true sense of the word is the most desirable state for married happiness. To be relaxed in each other's company quite naturally and without effort makes for recuperation of bodily and mental powers. Compatibility ensures peace in the home, similar aims and aspirations, a united front in relation to outside affairs, and the same ideas on bringing up a family.—Civis, Gisborne.

TEAMWORK is the pivot on which the success of connubial bliss, and its rise or fall, depends. Each must pull their weight in "double harness," and be dependable. Service is a much better word than duty, and in the act of doing anything worth while we learn the true meaning of

the word. Each partner should know his or her obligations, and in all honesty do their share cheerfully. I sometimes question if there is such a thing as love. Many intelligent and sane-living people could be just as happy with someone else. After all, honest dependability is the keynote.—Mrs. Vee, Waikato.

HYACINTHS

HAVE you ever looked carefully at the leaves of a hyacinth, and seen the marking resembling Y on them?

The ancient Greeks used to worship Hyacinth, and have a great festival, Hyacinthus, every year in his honour; do you remember that Hyacinth was the beautiful boy who was killed by the jealous god, Apollo? From the blood of the youth sprang the beautiful flower we call hyacinth, and ever since that day there has appeared on the leaf of the hyacinth a curious letter-shaped mark that stands for AI or "Alas" in the Greek tongue. Thus does the flower eternally bewail the death of the beautiful youth.



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