

LOVE REVERSED

It was at the New Year's Party. The last balloon was still in the air. The clouds parted, and a mischievous moon shone down upon leap year. It was in this rather colourful setting that I was first introduced to the problem on which I am about to expound.

My companion, who was standing beside me and who was quite overcome by the whole affair, remarked rather wistfully:

"During leap year, boys do not make dates with girls. Instead of this, the girls have to find the boys."

This lyric theme, both anguishing and delirious in its aspects, the speaker left suspended in mid air with that last balloon. So, it was up to me to whistle to the pointer of my good sense, aim the carbine of my reason, and start to pursue the truth through the bushes of lies and around the swamps of tittle-tattle.

I went at it this way:

Let us establish as hypothesis that, during leap year, both the procedures and the minds overthrow and interlace themselves, and that the weaker sex assumes the responsibility of dating the strong sex who no doubt will be weakened itself as a result of this. Very speculative! Then, let us speculate!

We shall first compile the reasons which are supposed to motivate such conduct and shall conclude by examining the facts in the nudity of their concretion.

The true motivating causes for such a situation have never been found. The human mind goes off the track, as would an imaginary locomotive on rational rails, in its pursuit of this mystery; so it must go down into the mine-shaft where it will extract two opinions from the egoistic ore.

The first opinion held is the popular one. A person once established that: "It is the number '4' by means of which one derives the number of leap years which presents the motive for a young girl or a spinster to divide herself in four to pursue her man more effectively."

I have found the motivating factor: not essentially the number "4" but the division carried out with the means of this number. "Divide to rule", said Machiavelli; it is the feminine politic at the time of "leapility". Women divide in four, if you wish) but they do divide, and that is the reason why they rule over men.

I knew that another opinion was held in the scientific field of this study. Hence, I decided to go and have a talk with the skilful psycho-physico-astronomo, Georgevsky, and his assistant, Cassino. In the obscurity which separated two flashes of those genii, I heard that, starting from the fact that the supplementary day of leap year is added to the 28 days of February to form a total of 29, the "leapilation" of the less ugly sex could be explained by an influence of the lunar gleams. "The moon", explained Georgevsky, "accomplishes her synodical revolution around the earth in 28 and 1/2 days, practically 29 days, and everybody accepts the fact that she rotates; for if she must stay in front of this earth, what else can she do but turn? Nobody is surprised to see the moon revolving around the earth; but one's eyeballs would protrude if, on the contrary, the earth, which is bigger, would begin to turn around the moon, which is smaller. Then, why should one be astonished if, during those years when February has 29 days, the girls should imitate the moon in her cycle of 29 days, and her bicycle of 58 days? Why, during those years, would not the girls, who are smaller, have to turn around the boys?"

"The reason for this," added the corpulent assistant, "is that masses attract themselves and it is the bigger which replaces the smaller", and looking at the lean master, he smiled gently.

Those standard credos called opinions do not seem to justify my hypothesis thoroughly.

Hence, for myself, I would attempt to justify the established hypothesis by means of a triple syllogism:

The intensity of desire renders waiting unbearable.
But the girls desire the boys with intensity.
Therefore the girls cannot bear waiting for the boys.
But when one cannot bear waiting, one goes into action.
Therefore the girls go into action when they have to wait for the boys.

But during leap year, the girls must wait 24 hours more.

Therefore, during leap year, the girls must go into action.

However, the study of the concrete and peculiar facts lead me intensively to doubt about the statement of the discussed hypothesis, even after a broad elaboration of the reasons brought in favor of this hypothesis. As a matter of fact, we can state as a general rule that the leap year did not yet change appreciably the mores in the matter of relations between boys and girls: up to date, no one has been kidnapped, nobody has been bitten; the atmosphere of the rooms is always the same; they are no more perfumed than they were in 1951.

Briefly, the leap year does not stop the moon from rotating around the earth nor does it stop the timid boys from twiddling their thumbs, nor the curious ones from exploiting.

The most logical conclusion would be that I do not believe in "reversed love". How about you?

—THE TWINS '53

THE OLD CHAPEL REVISITED

The other day, while awaiting "next period", I wandered into the old Chapel and sat down to reminisce. The former Sanctuary and sacristy have become a classroom—the nicest one on the Campus. The Chapel proper is used as an assembly Hall, and a number of the old pews with the carvings of generations still serve as seats. One of the old side Altars has found a new home in the present Sisters' Chapel as have part of the old Sanctuary Rail and some of the pews. These latter are hardly recognizable as sanding and varnish have obliterated the traces of the years to prevent the good Nuns having distractions at their meditations.

It is pleasant to remember that Our Lord still comes down to this rail each morning—the rail over which have flown such rivers of Grace, across the years and at which