

CONFESSIONS OF A WIFE

PERSONALITY WINS ADMIRATION.

"The next day being Sunday, I did not, of course, expect to see the manager, Margie," said Paula, continuing her story, "and I had made arrangements to go with Tom and Alma to Atlantic City.

"We started early and had a glorious time on the boardwalk and the piers. It was my first trip to Atlantic City and I think it is much pleasanter in winter than in summer. The invigorating air seemed to blow all the worries out of my brain and Tom complained whimsically that I had walked a new corn on both feet for him.

"By common consent we said nothing about the theater, but it was perfectly impossible for Alma and Tom to be together long without talking shop. I was glad of this, for newspaper shop talk means that the affairs of the world are under discussion.

"It seems Alma is what they call a human interest writer, and I gathered that any feature that will particularly interest human beings in humanity is what she is looking for.

"It seems to me that everything should interest humanity," I said.

"Not all humanity," said Tom. "Little groups of people are interested in different ideas, theories and methods of work or recreation, but they are only isolated groups here and there. All humanity is interested in that which makes them feel anything pertaining to the emotions, makes a sure-fire human interest story. Everybody, the rich and poor, the ignorant and cultured, the intellectual and simpleton, will thrill at the simple story of a great love to be made to shudder at the result of a great hatred.

"Every great story ever written is a human interest story, whether it is the relation of facts, as are most newspaper stories, or the concoction of fiction in books and magazines.

"Tom is writing a book," said Alma slyly.

"Oh, Tom, will you let me read some of it?" I asked eagerly.

"Yes," said Tom, "I want to find out its effect on the sense of someone before I submit it to the publisher's readers.

"You have made me laugh and cry over it, Tommy," said Alma. "Don't you think I am a person of sense?"

"Not all the time," was his laughing answer.

"That settles it, Mr. Sentimental Tommy. When your book comes out—if it ever does—I'll be on hand to write a review."

"Alma's calling Tom Perry 'Sentimental Tommy' is only too true of him. His personality is the most winning I have ever known. Men love him and women adore him. The merest smile which plays about his lips gives his wonderful eyes the most caressing expression I have ever seen on a human face and means more than the most flattering compliment to the woman to whom the smile is directed.

"This personality is so overpowering and gets him so many things that I was afraid at the time it would be his undoing, and it rather saddened me to think that one must be hard and selfish to succeed in this world. I was quite in hope that Tom had fallen in love with Alma, as she is just the most genuine little balance wheel I have ever known.

"I want you to know Alma some day, Margie, for I know you will love her as I do. Of all the women I have ever met I have never known but one other, and that is yourself, who looks at life and people with the same big perspective. I think it was Alma more than any one else who taught me charity toward every one—who made me understand that life is too big a thing for me to find fault with