

LAKE CHILDREN PROVE LOVE CAN DEFEAT PRISON

"I SHALL WAIT," PROMISES YOUNG WIFE WHEN HUSBAND IS CONVICTED

MUSKEGON, Mich. — Flickering moon beams on the waters of Lake Michigan carry a message of love to a little cottage near the shore.

Wherein waits a 16-year-old wife, an expectant mother, living a sequel to Poe's immortal "Annabel Lee."

And the moon never beams without bringing her dreams. Dreams of her 20-year-old husband, Ralph Thompson, who has been convicted of a perjury charge in connection with his obtaining the marriage license which united them in wedlock.

They were married more than a year ago, when his wife was barely 15. Then a brief honeymoon in a cottage under the very shadow of the coast guard tower, where Thompson, a coast guard, was on duty.

Thompson Was Arrested.

Then Thompson was arrested. It appears that he had sworn that his wife was 16 when the marriage license was issued.

His wife's mother, standing beside him, had listened without objection. The girl had told him she was 16.

But upon the testimony of the Muskegon county clerk, who testified Thompson had given the girl's age over the telephone as 14 years and then secured the license without him being recognized as the same man that had telephoned. Thompson was convicted.

Thompson has distinguished himself as a member of the coast guard and is in line for promotion. He was awarded a state bonus for his work as a guard, having saved four persons from drowning at the risk of his own life.

A little home is soon to be his own. But if the supreme court rules against him he will lose all.

"If they send you to prison, dear, I will be waiting for you no matter how many years it takes," his child wife has promised again and again.

Both Thompson and his wife have been children of the lake. His father was a commercial fisherman on South Manitou Island, where he spent his boyhood.

His wife also is the daughter of a fisherman, having been rocked in a boat at the cradle age.

Thompson, the descendant of the ancient Vikings, takes his trouble philosophically. "Did you ever read Annabel Lee?" he asks, then quotes:

"I was a child and she was a child,
In the Kingdom by the sea;
But we loved with a love that was
more than a love,
I and my Annabel Lee:
With a love that the winged seraphs
of Heaven
Coveted her and me."

LAKE CHILDREN PROVE LOVE CAN DEFEAT PRISON

"I SHALL WAIT," PROMISES
YOUNG WIFE WHEN HUS-
BAND IS CONVICTED

MUSKEGON, Mich. — Flickering moon beams on the waters of Lake Michigan carry a message of love to a little cottage near the shore.

Wherein waits a 16-year-old wife, an expectant mother, living a sequel to Poe's immortal "Annabel Lee."

And the moon never beams without bringing her dreams. Dreams of her 20-year-old husband. Ralph Thompson, who has been convicted on a perjury charge in connection with his obtaining the marriage license which united them in wedlock.

They were married more than a year ago, when his wife was barely 15. Then a brief honeymoon in a cottage under the very shadow of the coast guard tower, where Thompson, a coast guard, was on duty.

Thompson Was Arrested.

Then Thompson was arrested. It appears that he had sworn that his wife was 16 when the marriage license was issued.

His wife's mother, standing beside him, had listened without objection. The girl had told him she was 16

But upon the testimony of the Muskegon county clerk, who testified Thompson had given the girl's age over the telephone as 14 years and then secured the license without him being recognized as the same man that had telephoned. Thompson was convicted.

Thompson has distinguished himself as a member of the coast guard and is in line for promotion. He was awarded a state bonus for his work as a guard, having saved four persons from drowning at the risk of his own life

A little home is soon to be his own. But if the supreme court rules against him he will lose all.

"If they send you to prison dear, I will be waiting for you no matter how many years it takes," his child wife has promised again and again.

Both Thompson and his wife have been children of the lake. His father was a commercial fisherman on South Manitou Island where he spent his boyhood.

His wife also is the daughter of a fisherman, having been rocked in a boat at the cradle age.

Thompson, the descendant of the ancient Vikings, takes his trouble philosophically. "Did you ever read Annabel Lee?" he asks. then quotes.

"I was a child and she was a child.

In the Kingdom by the sea.

But we loved with a love that was

more than a love.

I and my Annabel Lee:

With a love that the winged seraphs

of Heaven

Coveted her and me "

(transcript)