Gracie is to marry again

GRACIE FIELDS is to marry again.

Her husband will be 48-year-old Rumanian - born Abraham Alberovich, radio repair man for 20 years on the island of Capri, where Gracie lives.

Gracie called her friends to her Capri Villa Canzone del Mare yesterday, to give them the news. She sang "I'm in love."

She also sang: "I'm an old goat, but I'm so much in love with him."

The wedding, she said, will take place in Capri's cathedral and she will become a Roman Catholic before marrying.

IT WAS LOVE

The romance began when Gracie, who will be 54 next month, asked the local radio shop to send a man to repair her set.

Alberovich, good-looking, sun-tanned, blond and blue-eyed, arrived to do the job.

"It was love at first sight," said Gracie, who, despite her Lancashire accent, is known in Capri as "the crazy American."

Then, admitted Gracie, she tampered with her radio set, "just to have him come up to the villa and repair it."

After several of these "radio repair sessions," she told her friends: "He saw that there was nothing wrong with the set or with my electric recorder.

"He asked me if I would marry him."

A SURPRISE

It will be her third marriage. Her first husband was comedian Archie Pitt. They were divorced in 1939.

Then she married Hollywood actor Monty Banks, who in August last year died in her arms on the Simplon Express after a heart attack.

Gracie was in England last month, making gramophone recordings and appearing in a B.B.C. series. She is due to visit the U.S. soon.

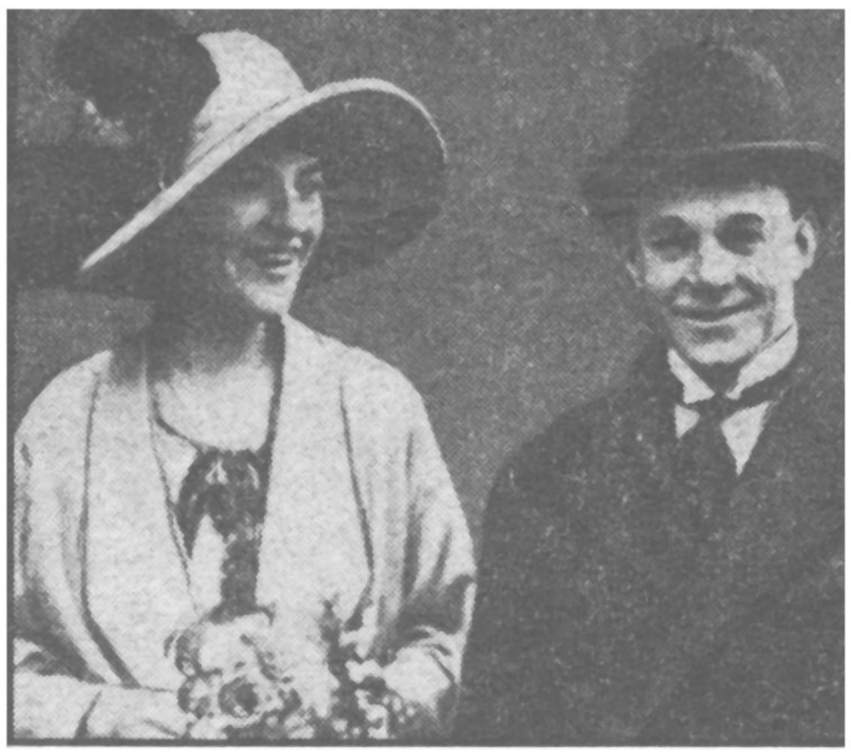
Her mother, Mrs. Stansfield, said at Brighton last night: "This is a surprise. I didn't know anything about it."

Mrs. Bert Aza, wife of Gracie's agent, said: "We had a 'phone call from her on Christmas Day. She seemed disappointed we had not received a letter from her.

"Then she said we would soon have to congratulate her."

How Gracie Fields looks to-day a few weeks off her 54th birthday. She will marry for the third time in February.

THE FIRST



1923 *Gracie, in big-bowed hat, becomes Mrs. Archie Pitt, wife of the comedian. The marriage ended in divorce in 1939.*

THE SECOND

1940 *The "Hollywood" Gracie weds comedian-turned-film-producer Monty Banks. He died on the Simplon Express last year.*

Gracie seeks Papal sanction

Gracie Fields is seeking and may be granted Papal dispensation to marry her third husband, radio mechanic Abraham Boris Alperovich, in Capri—where she has her villa—in February.

The Capri priest, Luigi Lembo, said yesterday he had advised the couple to go ahead with their February wedding plans, though it was unlikely that Miss Fields's conversion to Catholicism would be complete by then.

Miss Fields said when she announced her engagement she would become a Roman Catholic like her husband-to-be.

Gracie weds on March 4

GRACIE FIELDS plans to marry her radio-mechanic fiancé Abraham Boris Alperovich on March 4 on the Isle of Capri.

But, contrary to her earlier plans, she will not turn Roman Catholic, like her fiancé, at present.

The couple were, however, hoping to be married in the Capri Catholic church.

When Gracie consulted the local priest he advised her to consider the matter carefully, and pointed out that she could still be converted after the marriage if she wished.

GRACIE MAY NOT CHANGE FAITH

WEDDING ON MARCH 4

Capri, Saturday.

The wedding of Gracie Fields and radio technician Abraham Boris Alperovich has been fixed for March 4 on this island.

Alperovich said here to-day that Gracie was not planning to be converted to the Roman Catholic faith before their marriage. They are, therefore, asking for permission for their mixed marriage to be performed in the local Catholic church.

They planned to call to-day on Father Lembo, the island's priest, but the meeting was postponed as Lembo has a cold.

It is understood the priest earlier counselled Gracie to consider carefully the matter of changing her faith, pointing out that she could be converted after marriage if she desired.

See Gossip of the Day.—**Page Four.**