

We are married, says Gracie crying with joy

By **NORMAN PRICE**, Daily Graphic Correspondent, Capri

GRACIE FIELDS lifted the telephone in her Capri villa yesterday and rang dozens of friends. Again and again she said: "We are married. I'm terribly happy."

And again and again she pulled her husband of one hour, Boris Alperovici, to the telephone to repeat that he was happy, too.

Then Boris, 48-year-old refugee from Bessarabia, and Gracie, who is 54, went to Green Cottage, a few yards from the villa.

It has no telephone, said a friend, and there they will have a quiet honeymoon.

The wedding ceremony, which Boris and Gracie had tried to keep secret, was performed by the parish priest, Don Luigi Lembo.

The couple had laid a false trail through Rome, arriving back at Capri yesterday, intending to be married before anyone was aware of it.

We rejoice . . .

But as Gracie and Boris went into church the priest, hurriedly lighting candles, complained that he seemed to be the only person who did not know the marriage plans.

Photographers' bulbs flashed continuously during the five-minute service, and when it was over the Italian crowd shouted, "May you be happy" and "We rejoice with you."

Undignified

Gracie cried with happiness.

Then Boris, who is head of the Electrical and Engineering Research Department of Capri's Arts and Science Museum, told me:

"I do hope people will stop referring to me as a radio repair man. It is untrue. I didn't mind for myself, but now Gracie is my wife, it is undignified for her."



Gracie Fields lowers her head with the gay bandeau to see Boris Alperovici slip on the ring which makes her his wife.

After a short service the couple went off to the house of a friend in Capri for their honeymoon.