

Woman's Realm

American Girls.

The average American is blase almost before the English girl is ready to leave her school, says a writer in the World Magazine. The English girl never leaves her governess and home before she is eighteen, while at the same age the American girl has seen much of the world.

Yet the American girl retains her vivacity and her interest in everything, and it is that one quality, I think, above all others that wins for her the admiration of the Englishwoman.

The American woman never looks to her husband as master, while the Englishwoman is taught to do so from her birth.

The Womanly Forces.

In a recent speech John Barrett said to a Massachusetts school for girls that the American girl had more influence as wife, mother and sister than any man with his vote, yet counted nothing because she had no vote. The Ohio State Journal holds that as a wrong conclusion, saying:

"The average woman can do more to-day than the average man in the promotion of any noble purpose in civic or social life. But it is largely a matter of personal influence wisely directed. In our temperance legislation, for instance, who are more closely interested in good laws than the women? And when they make their demands intelligently, forcibly, personally, they will secure what they desire."

Women Who Cook.

Knowledge of how to cook palatable dishes is no longer despised by women active in society. President Grant's attractive grand-daughter, who was Miss Vivian Sartoris, now Mrs. Roosevelt Scovel, is winning fame for the American-bred girl by her delicious little dinners in her Dresden home. Mrs. Scovel rarely asks more than six to her feasts and usually she prepares every detail of the menu herself. Her salads are the pride of her friends, and her pastry would win praise from a French chef. Mrs. Francis King Wainwright, the daughter of Senator Foraker, has a wide reputation in Philadelphia for her culinary accomplishments. Mrs. Wainwright, as Miss Julia Foraker, could make delicious candies and deserts. Mrs. Knox is noted for her fine preserves, and Mrs. Roosevelt supervises the making of that famous yellow pickle from a recipe which is 200 years old in the Roosevelt family.—New York Press.

Skill in Wearing a Veil.

Miss Edith Colford, who is a famous horsewoman, is also well known among the women of Newport for her skill in arranging her veils, and also the envy of many who cannot achieve the effects which she gets. She always wears a long chiffon veil over her simple face veil, and the color varies to match or contrast with her costume, but they always float out behind her in a graceful fashion, no matter which way the wind seems to be blowing. This is a mystery to the women whose veils float in front when they are supposed to be gracefully streaming behind. Miss Colford has caused comment by driving some days sitting on the right seat of her runabout and other days on the left, thereby showing that she can change at any time without affecting her fine style of driving.—New York Press.

Value of Rest.

The philosopher Herbert Spencer used to lament, in his later years, that he had not adopted a regular system of recreation. He often said that what he had needed was play, simple play, "useless" from every point of view excepting that of recreating the system. This sort of human philosophy, says The Independent, is gaining ground every year.

No one, at any age, can live healthily, and be a wholesome human being, without play. City life particularly demands provision for relaxation for those who are in mature life. In this way only can the burdens of life be kept from wearing one out prematurely. Further, there is no doubt that the public can so provide for relaxation and recreation that the whole community shall feel the benefit of it from a sanitary standpoint and in the reduction of crime. Public playing is a feature of the life of many Norwegian and Swiss communities. It works admirably in the way of keeping health and a good social atmosphere.

Precisely so with the young, so with the old—play has a hygiene value. It relieves the brain and the heart, the organs most likely to be broken down through hard work and worry. Play seems to have an admirable effect in equalizing the circulation of the blood and in mitigating the strain placed on the different organs. Play furnishes also a kind of mental training which is very necessary in adult life. It takes the attention from a single affair, and it keeps all the sense-organs alert. Nor can we make too much of the social element in this matter. A good playground is the best means of counteracting the differentiation from each other which we undergo in the struggle for life.

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But have we really any time for games? Who can leave his business to spend an hour at sport every day of his life? We have seen this tested, in a small way, very successfully, by a communal bowling alley. Business men of all sorts and bankers did find it possible to get away from work and enjoy themselves in a very simple, free and easy way. They threw off their burdens, laughed and shouted and recreated. Golf has proved a useful game for many, and croquet and tennis have done a great deal of direct good. They do not quite fill the bill, however, as family games. What we want is a public recognition of the value of play, and opportunities for gathering together precisely as we would group our children.

American Dress.

Writing on the interchange of ideas and ideals between America and Japan, in the Housekeeper, Marian Bonsall illustrates her point by an amusing and instructive anecdote.

A Japanese girl and an American girl were having an amusing time at a Japanese home in Tokio one evening, dressing in one another's clothes, the Japanese girl arraying herself in an American evening gown and the American girl in a ceremonial kimono. The first instinct of the Japanese girl was to pull up the low neck of the gown and pull down the sleeves; and the American girl's impulse was to pull the kimono smoothly around the waist and hips, just exactly where it should have been folded over. Then they started to assist each other, each one protesting firmly against certain principles the other demanded as essential to correct dressing. But even when finished there was something radically wrong with the ensemble; and the girls, after hypocritically insisting that the other looked beautiful, sat on the matting and laughed.

"I feel very strange," said O-Take-San.

"I feel funny," said the American girl.

"I think you are very tight where we are loose," said O-Take-San again.

"The idea of making your waist the broadest part of you," laughed the American girl.

"I feel," said O-Take-San, solemnly, "as though my kimono were falling off," as she indicated the cut of her waist and the fulness of her skirt. "Do you always feel cold when you wear such dress?" she queried, as she ran away to the mirror again, giggling in a very feminine way.

When she came back to be helped out of the imprisoning hooks and eyes, she gave her ultimatum on the subject of American clothes.

"I think," she said, reflectively, "that the American dress is good to have no heavy obi; but I think it not good to be cold and to be tight. And I should not like to feel stiff like board and wear such many skirts."

NEWEST FASHIONS

"Pierrot" boas in black and white net are revived.

White linen is, of course, always liked for coat and skirt suits, as are the soft dull blues.

String color linens and linens in the creamy biscuit shadings are particularly popular this season.

Nowadays motor clothes are charming if the wearer studies appearance as well as comfort.

Now and then a jabot of lace held in place by a pearl buckle falls from the lower point of the lace chemise-ette.

Women who drive a great deal are of the opinion that a coat that reaches to the feet is burdensome and always in the way.

White collars and cuffs may be added or not, but some of the best tailors advise tailored collars and cuffs faced with white French pique.

The tiniest of lace boleros, so small, indeed, as to be scarcely more than a yoke, with sleeve caps is a very attractive garniture for a sheer gown.

Nothing is better for any sport, be it yachting, automobilism, golfing, riding or hunting, than the Panama garnished simply with a band or flat chon of taffeta.

White linen coats and skirts trimmed with narrow Irish crochet insertion and hand embroidery are made up upon very simple lines and loose, collarless, short-sleeved coats and plainly gored skirts.

Linen collars have returned to prominence and designers are, turning out many tasteful ideas in these dress accessories. Turn-over collars remain first in popularity—not the little turn-over muslin bands or dress protectors, which seem to be rather going out of style, but starched linen turn-over collars.

Antics of Our "Yellow Rich"

By the Editor of The Argonaut.

A well known writer has been traveling on the steamship America, which may be said to be the last word in naval architecture and ocean splendor. He finds plenty to admire in a floating hotel that can accommodate about 4000 people, and that is fitted up with the same magnificence as may be found in the most luxurious hotel. But even magnificence is open to criticism and the appointments of the America are the subject of caustic comment—directed against those vulgar ones who are irresistibly attracted, not so much by comfort and luxury as by the simple opportunity to spend money lavishly and to summon all the world and his wife as witnesses thereto.

The special occasion for animadversion is the Ritz-Carleton restaurant, which is to be found on the America. There is no objection to the gymnasium, the children's nursery, the conservatory, the brass band, the two string orchestras, or the half dozen pianos. All these things can be defended on the ground of substantial comfort, but there can be no palliation for the restaurant, which is simply a tawdry excuse for spending money. This is what he says:

"This wonderful cafe, which in service is equal to anything on either side of the Atlantic, is ostensibly for the purpose of supplying a la carte meals to passengers who do not find it convenient to eat at regular meals. In reality it is a remunerative concession to that class of Americans termed by Owen Wister the 'Yellow Rich,' who wander up and down the earth consumed with a burning desire to exhibit to the public tangible evidence of their riches. All of the big modern flyers that preceded the America in the past ten years were amply provided with private dining rooms, where, if the traveler had the price, he could have meals served at most any hour in the twenty-four, but as these private dining rooms offered no opportunity for a public display of wealth the Ritz-Carleton restaurant became in a degree a necessity. Within its elegant glass walls the 'yellow rich' not only enjoy the privileges of paying four prices for a meal, but they are also permitted to show the common herd, which, for reasons economical and otherwise, must worry along on eight and ten course meals in the main dining saloon, that they actually have the price and glory in the opportunity for spending it. The cafe is, of course, a convenience for others who desire to sleep late or retire late and who drop in occasionally and order a meal to vary the regular saloon fare, but this class of patronage would be insufficient to remunerate the orchestra, which is a good one, and it is only through the heavy expenditure of the 'yellow rich' that the Ritz-Carleton pays even."

The trouble of this sort of thing is that it gives foreigners a false idea of Americans. We are told that on this particular voyage there was a baron, a count and "some minor strips of royalty," but they had not a valet between them. The Americans, on the other hand, had retinues of valets, gentlemen's gentlemen, man-servants, maid-servants and all the other representatives of the parasite tribe. There is certainly room for the moralizings that follow:

"There may appear in these notes evidence of a personal grievance and, to a degree, I plead guilty. But the grievance is not specific, and it did not have its origin on the America. Neither is it altogether my grievance, for it is one that is marveled by thousands of other Americans who, annually, on business or pleasure, visit the Old World. Our 'yellow rich' have set a pace and ashore that it is very difficult for the plain, everyday Americans to maintain. Some of the ex-paddlers in the Pennsylvania Steel Works never seem to have anything smaller than a sovereign for a tip, and the ostentatious manner in which they bestow it dazzles the eyes of the cringing minions to such an extent that the shilling of the 'American' American is overlooked or treated with haughty disdain. It is the effect of this ostentatious distribution of wealth of which we of the ranks complain, as it renders it very difficult for us to secure what is coming to us."

It would seem that smart society ashore is somewhat worse than smart society ashore.

WORDS OF WISDOM.

Poor excuses we have always with us.

Anything that is almost right is wrong.

Criticise yourself to-day and others to-morrow.

The man who looks for trouble is seldom disappointed.

Silent watches of the night are those we neglect to wind.

An Indian scalps his enemy; a white man skins his friend.

It's well to remember that it is a mistake to forget a favor.

A confidence man has very little confidence in other people.

Savage dogs have caused many a man to travel for his health.

And the man who sells parasols is engaged in a shady business.

You can't dodge the worst by sitting down and hoping for the best.

Kisses that are to be had for the asking are seldom worth taking.

A fool can answer questions that a wise man would be ashamed to ask.

If a woman is willing to let a man talk it is because she has nothing to tell.

GOOD ROADS

To Create Good Roads.

An enterprise is being organized in Chicago that will do much to advance the movement for good roads in all parts of the country. The agitation of the question in the past has been almost entirely of a public character, and so general in its nature that necessarily it has not been possible to make much specific advancement. In consequence the engineering firm of Layman & Layman, of Chicago, has perfected plans for improved roads and highways.

The Commercial Highway Company proposes to undertake the construction of public highways in various parts of the country in a businesslike and commercial way. The principles which will underlie the operations of the company will result in the roads being turned over to the public after they have been paid for and a fair return made upon the capital invested. The plans of the Commercial Highway Company do not contemplate that the districts through which the roads run shall be taxed to pay for them, but, on the contrary, the company proposes to make them pay for themselves.

The essential feature in this plan is that the company shall acquire by purchase not only its right of way, but, in addition, such real estate as may adjoin or be attached in any way by the construction of the road. The company will be empowered to issue bonds based upon its real estate and other holdings. The increased value of the real estate after the construction of the road will, it is expected, not only pay for the road itself, but leave a fair profit for the stockholders of the company. In addition to this the roads are expected to earn considerable themselves in the way of tolls for traffic over them.

The plans under which the company will build its roads offer many novel features. They are designed to be 120 feet in width, divided into eight sections. On four of these sections traffic will run in one direction and on the other four in the opposite direction. On the outer edge of the road there is to be a four-foot path for pedestrians; next comes a fifteen-foot roadway open daily to vehicles drawn by animals; then comes a twenty-four-foot roadway for general automobile traffic, and then a sixteen-foot roadway for commercial automobiles. The different parts of the road are curbed from one another and a fence is set above the curb. No traffic will be allowed both ways in the same section, nor will animals be allowed in the automobile or power sections. Necessarily the various kinds of traffic will have to cross the different sections in running to the proper roadway and in leaving it, but protection in this respect is provided for by gateways at the entrances and exits, which will be made at cross roads or other suitable points. Overhead crossings of all existing thoroughfares will be a feature.

MISLED BY PARROTS.

How Columbus Missed the Honor of Discovering This Continent.

A flight of birds, coupled with a sailor's superstition, robbed Columbus of the honor of discovering the continent. When Columbus sailed westward over the unknown Atlantic he expected to reach Zipangu (Japan). After several days' sail from Gomers, one of the Canary Islands, he became uneasy at not discovering Zipangu, which, according to his reckonings, should have been 216 nautical miles more to the east.

After a long discussion he yielded to the opinion of Martin Alonso Pinzon, the commander of the Pinta, and steered to the southwest. Pinzon was guided in his opinion solely by a flight of parrots which took wing in that direction. It was good luck to follow in the wake of a flock of birds when engaged upon a voyage of discovery, according to widespread superstition among Spanish seamen of that day.

If Columbus had kept to his course he would have entered the Gulf Stream, have reached Florida, and then probably have been carried to Cape Hatteras and Virginia.—Pittsburg Press.

Fiction Stranger Than Truth.

A magazine editor was talking about W. W. Jacobs, the famous humorist.

"I went abroad this summer," he said, "to try and get Mr. Jacobs to write for me; but I found that he had all he could do for six or seven years to come."

"He is a quiet, modest chap. When I praised his wonderful skill in the writing of short stories, he said that it was only their surprises that made his stories take."

"Then, to illustrate what he meant, he told me a story wherein the surprises came fast and furious."

"He said that a lawyer, defending a man of housebreaking, spoke like this:

"Your honor, I submit that my client did not break into the house at all. He found the parlor window open and merely inserted his right arm and removed a few trifling articles. Now, my client's arm is not himself, and I fail to see how you can punish the whole individual for an offense committed by only one of his limbs."

"That argument," said the judge, "is very well put. Following it logically, I sentence the defendant's arm to one year's imprisonment. He can accompany it or not, as he chooses."

"The defendant smiled, and with his lawyer's assistance unscrewed his cork arm, and, leaving it in the dock, walked out."—Detroit Free Press.

THINGS WORTH KNOWING

Bleeding for certain ills is returning to favor.

As late as May 2 the mail service to Davos, Switzerland, required sleighs.

Sunday-schools were born 104 years ago (1803) in a little old round building in London, which is now used as a wagon shop, but which was known in those days as the Surrey Chapel.

Place twelve onions in a row on Christmas Day, name each after a month and put salt on their tops. Those on which the salt is melted inside of twelve days will be wet months, according to Long Island weather science.

The cotton plant did not originate in America. Its original habitat is unknown, but the culture and manufacture of cotton were known in India and other Eastern lands for ages before America was discovered.

Mrs. Charles G. Holdcraft, of Brimleyport, Conn., has a double-plum penny that is fifty years old. It has bloomed every year, but this year seemed to make extra effort to celebrate its golden anniversary by an extra heavy bloom.

"Kangaroo" is a queer word. It means "I don't understand" in the tongue of the Australian aborigines. When this strange animal was first beheld by the Europeans they inquired of the aborigines, "What is its name?" And the puzzled reply gave the animal its name.

According to a Washington photographer, who has taken pictures of all the Presidents from Grant to the present occupant of the White House, President Roosevelt is the hardest of the lot to pose. It seems to be a positive misery for him to sit in one position for more than five seconds.

The amount of money which the Government is called upon to redeem in the course of the year reaches an almost fabulous amount. In 1904, for instance, it totaled \$912,000,000. This redemption is either for the purpose of securing clean, fresh notes or to get change of some other denomination.

Japanese preferential rates on the Manchurian Railway, as the Newchwang returns indicate, are effectively diverting the trade of the northern provinces from that port to Dalny. It costs more to have goods transported 330 miles from Newchwang than it does for 465 miles from Dalny.

FEMINE NEWS NOTES.

Edna May (Mrs. Oscar Lewisohn) will never return to the stage.

Beagle raising is the profitable occupation of a young lady, a Miss Asch, near Alken, S. C.

Ex-Senator McComas, of Maryland, secretly married Mrs. Hebe Harrison Muir, of Kentucky, at Atlantic City.

Miss Louise Chestnut makes her living by raising and training native song birds near the popular winter resort of Alken, S. C.

Mrs. Russell Sage gave \$250,000 to the Association for the Relief of Respectable Aged, Indigent Females in the city of New York.

Miss Kerstin Hesselgren has been appointed by the Swedish Government to the post of sanitary inspector in Stockholm. This is a new departure for Sweden.

One of the largest typewriting concerns in the world is in New York City and conducted by two sisters. Women writ servers are a success in many of our large cities.

In Texas a woman has the contract to carry the mail from Kille to Sleral Hill, and Georgia has a woman mail carrier who travels a forty-mile route tri-weekly, besides managing a large farm.

Certain society women in Washington have engaged in a movement to make the use of wine at dinners and punch at receptions unfashionable. Their leader is Mrs. J. E. Henderson, wife of the ex-Senator from Missouri.

Some of the best sugar beet raisers in California have been women. One woman in Nevada raises pampas plumes for a support, while some ladies of Pasadena, Cal., make a specialty of preparing ostrich feathers for the market.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, who has been in poor health, has recovered, and is again receiving her friends at Forest Hill, Cleveland, Ohio.

The Fruit of Close Study.

She was only a substitute teacher, says the New York Tribune. Still, she should have known better. "Suppose," said she in the mental arithmetic lesson, "suppose Mary has five oranges and Gladys gives her 11 more. Then, if Mary gave Winifred six, how many would she have left? There was a long pause.

"Well!" she prompted, impatiently, "it's easy enough."

"Please, teacher," spoke up the smallest girl, "we always do our sums in apples."

Real courtesy is one of the finest flowers of humanity, poetically suggests the Duluth Evening Herald, and it scatters sunshine and makes life easier, pleasanter, and more profitable.

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