

Wichita Daily Eagle

WOMAN AND HOME.

BENEFITS WOMEN MAY DERIVE FROM THE ART OF FENCING.

"Men Women" Defined—Mrs. Kendall on American Women—Some Beautiful Women Not Young—The Mission of Educated Women.

Sufficient evidence that woman may become a mistress of fence with the foil as she is always with the tongue is given in a spirited article by Margaret Boland, published in Outlook. She tells us that it is in Paris, where the practical use of small swords among men has never been restricted, that the art of fencing has flourished since the days of "Le Grand Marquis."

Now, fencing develops the muscular system by the simple process of learning its practice, while it does not bring on physical exhaustion, often the result of other exercises. Many women have overtaxed their powers at lawn tennis by becoming over-tired or strained weak muscles, only to find their health in the future for much improved.

Or, perhaps—and 'tis not uncommon after one season of vigorous racket swinging—big knobby hips are found to have become too prominent in a white, rounded arm and gloves of the fit for the left hand refuse to fit over the broadened palm of the right.

The average sport or exercise is mastered by plunging wildly into its mysteries, hitting out blindly to right and left, trusting with confidence to change and practice to getting looked into shape, and in most cases a guide or master is rather a hindrance than a help.

When once the delicacies of the foil practice are successfully conquered, the slender planning rapier comes over in the hands of a woman, for what she may lack in positive size of bone and muscle is made up in exceeding dexterity.

Men's Women. "What are men's women?" asked the most charming of her sex; "men are forever saying of woman, by the way, I detest that she is a man's woman." Teach me how to be a woman. Wherein lies the charm?

Certainly not, dear madam. It is quite true that while one man's ideal differs most fortuitously from another's, as one star differs from another star in glory, there are those who are known among us as "men's women," for a happy combination of qualities somewhat difficult to describe.

Economy in Dress. Economy in the matter of dress lies more in taking care of what clothes you have than in having fewer or in spending less on them. In order to practice this economy have in your room a clothes brush, a white towel and a small can of hair brush, also have handy a bottle of ammonia, one of benzoin and a small sponge for applying either of them.

Beautiful Old Women. By no means is the "palm" for beauty, talent and redemptive awarded entirely to the younger women of London, but sharing equally with them are the beautiful old women, who have lived most of their noble lives there.

How to Marry Well. What girl should never forget is to be neat! Not primy, so, but daintily so. The girl will get up, with irreproachable gloves and shoes that fit, though her gown be only cotton, yet if it be well turned out, may compete with the richest, while the slovenly dresser, who scorns or forgets to give attention to details, is passed over by the discerning eye, though her dress may be a masterpiece of worth.

Little Women Shouldn't Wear Tall Hats. Little women with large heads very often think they will look taller if they wear large hats and a fluffy arrangement of the hair. This is a fallacy, and instead of looking taller, they will only appear the shorter. The reason is very simple. Their height is only about six lengths of the head. Naturally, by increasing the size of the head the disproportion will be greater, as then their figure will appear to be only five times the length of their head.

Two Postoffice Women. There are about one hundred women clerks in the postoffice department at Washington, and the highest salary paid there is \$1,000. Mrs. Patti L. Collins probably holds the position which it would be most difficult to replace. She is an expert reader of manuscript and the hieroglyphics that appear on some of the mail matter, and she passes through a great letter office. She knows a dozen languages and has an excellent memory for names, so that she can place streets in every civilized city in the world, written in no matter what language. She has been ten years in the postoffice.

Specimens of Postage Stamps. It is astonishing what a number of stamp collectors there are in the world. It is a profession which did not come into vogue until 1861, but since that year it has spread everywhere and it was very amusing to see the surprise produced on the faces of the gentle, motherly, sweet faced, silver haired woman stepped on the platform and began to address them in the kindly manner so well known to all her followers.

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Girl Bachelors in America. "What is the most characteristic thing you have found in our American life?" was asked of an observant Englishman who has been spending a few months in New York. "The girl bachelors," he said. "There are no spinster bars, as we call them in England. The unmarried woman in America is a type almost unique. She has all the independence of a man and still keeps every essential trait of the best woman. She thinks and plans and executes for herself, and she does not seem to make mistakes. The girl bachelors of our land are, as we call them in England, 'The world if she were married.' She is always gracious and companionable, but never oversteps the bounds of her dignity. Oh, the girl bachelors is the most wonderful thing America has yet produced, and she is altogether charming."—New York Evening Sun.

Wine Baths for Beauties. A few favored beauties in California know the tonic effect of wine baths, which are administered with some economy by taking a warm water bath first, and when the pores are open, entering a wooden tub containing a cask of red wine, which does duty over and over again. Or, both tubs are soaked in wine and laid on the porch after a warm bath, and certainly the wine bath is very refreshing and refining to the skin. Fifteen minutes is the proper time for the application of either. It also whitens and softens the hands to such an extent in a basin of red wine.—New York Letter.

of its own weight, and in the end, as you yourself will admit, you stand in awe of her. Your question grows it. I have tried to tell you why we like her; and if you must have a word of definition, here it is: She is one who has the gift to study men, and who, having studied many, finds the process still amusing. If you lack this primal requisite, abandon the unequal contest. You will never become like her by a servile imitation of her tricks and her manners. In spite of these, which set you against her, let me entreat you to believe her a deserving woman, indeed.—Scribner's Magazine.

An Actress Opinion of American Women.

It is interesting to hear what Mrs. Kendall thinks about American women and their possibilities. Chattering away, she said: "The American woman is a continual surprise to me. A card would be brought to me, properly engraved, and bearing the name, say Mrs. Smith. I was out, and the next day I would get a note from Mrs. Smith, charmingly written, regretting my absence and asking when she would find me at home. I would write and tell her, and then there would appear a lady, well dressed, well educated, who had seen almost everything there was to see, and talked about them and the latest fads. While she was with me another caller would come in, and, after Mrs. Smith went away, the second one would inform me that twenty years ago Mrs. Smith was standing behind a counter, selling peanuts on a corner, or helping her mother in a laundry."

"I would go to a luncheon at Mrs. Smith's home; the service was perfect, the rooms exquisitely furnished, the hostess herself charming. Now, this could only happen in America, and why? Take an English woman in the same standing, get her governess to teach her French, get her a music master, so come to teach her to hold her knife and fork correctly, to receive her guests properly, and she simply never could learn. There is something in the American brain, especially in the feminine brain, that seems to grasp the right idea with a quickness that is wonderful, which I, as an English woman, intensely admire. There are no women in the world like them. Like America? Why, of course I do."—New York Sun.

The Mission of Educated Women.

General recognition is at once given of the beauty of the possible home, and of the power and importance of the woman who creates it; but that this woman's only field is emphatically denied. There are now open for many a young woman, who has an influence the race, and the question is raised as to whether the advantage in this respect is altogether on the side of the married woman. Two or three of the older women in the group, who have had long and varied experience as teachers, ask if it is not probable that many a young child, who has come into their hands there are not some, at least, who owe more to their school environment than to the home life. They claim that, as teachers, should be credited with the influence which, in the nature of things, is inseparable from the responsibility which is put upon them.

"To us," they say, "and not to the already overburdened wife and mother, is given the power to lead and direct the youth of the race. Would you have us, with that in view, aim at anything less than the best? The education of English and American children is, in the main, in the hands of women, and this not because of an anomalous social condition, but because of their peculiar fitness for the work. On Mr. Allen's own showing, these women should remain unmarried, and, if this is undesirable from their part, it is left for him to show us that such sacrifice is ignominious or in any sense threatening to the public welfare."—Mrs. M. F. Armstrong in Popular Science Monthly.

The Girl of the Home.

A young and beautiful girl, with a fair income and a full length mirror, can discount all the artists that ever wielded brush, though she may never have read an "art treatise," and all the models that ever posed for contrast and harmonies and classic folds and draperies than the bird swinging in the apple boughs which cast their flickering shadows over the white matting of her dainty bedroom—a room, by the way, that is neither too hot nor too cold, and in which a sweet, clean perfume hangs in the air, and the light from the lamp of a room of a quiet, pure girl—where the spring air blows gently through the white curtains windows, bringing in the fragrance of the apple blossoms and scattering their petals over the floor. With the same instinct that the bird feels the nest, the girl makes her pretty parlor, day by day, completing them with a blossom from the tree or a cluster from the garden bed, rejoicing in her own beauty and never doubting that the heart of the world is as young and light as her own; perhaps laying away at night some ribbon or flower with a tender touch, because of the evening's association. Let us give thanks that there are thousands of such girls left in our country yet, girls who belong to the fields and the orchards and the gardens of home, and not to society's hot-houses.—New York Times.

Economy in Dress.

Economy in the matter of dress lies more in taking care of what clothes you have than in having fewer or in spending less on them. In order to practice this economy have in your room a clothes brush, a white towel and a small can of hair brush, also have handy a bottle of ammonia, one of benzoin and a small sponge for applying either of them. Then never hang a dress away with a spot on it. If the missing buttons cannot be put on sewed on or the rips in the gloves and dresses mended, it should be done at the first spare moment, that everything may be ready to put on or obliged to dress in a hurry. Whenever the most sewing is done it is a good plan to have a bag with several compartments, one for shoe buttons, coarse thread and needles, another for darning cottons of all colors and degrees of fineness, a third for buttons of every description, one for the best pieces of old kid gloves and another for the legs of worn out hose. The sixth may contain pieces of each of your dresses. The kid glove compartment should contain silks for mending, and the small buttons. If everything is handy the dreaded mending will not seem half so hard a task.—Exchange.

Beautiful Old Women.

By no means is the "palm" for beauty, talent and redemptive awarded entirely to the younger women of London, but sharing equally with them are the beautiful old women, who have lived most of their noble lives there. Mrs. Gladstone and Baroness Burdette Courts, who has a "strange, sweet, weak face," come first on the list of beautiful old women. Mrs. Gladstone's greatest beauty lies in her expression, so well interpreted by Hubert Heriotter at the Royal Academy. Another charming old woman is Mrs. Sterling, recently retired from Irving's theatre. Mrs. Procter, the mother of Adelaide Anne Procter, and widow of Barry Cornwall. At 80 Mrs. Procter is a brilliant society beauty, and Mrs. Tom Taylor still holds her place among the best amateur pianists of London. Mrs. Hester, of artistic dress reform fame, is said to have written sonnets, "the finest since Shakespeare's." Mrs. wear dresses to modern costume. Mrs. Caird, the original agitator in that interesting discussion, "Is Marriage a Failure?" looks a living proof that "Marriage is a Success."—London Letter.

How to Marry Well.

What girl should never forget is to be neat! Not primy, so, but daintily so. The girl will get up, with irreproachable gloves and shoes that fit, though her gown be only cotton, yet if it be well turned out, may compete with the richest, while the slovenly dresser, who scorns or forgets to give attention to details, is passed over by the discerning eye, though her dress may be a masterpiece of worth. A girl should learn to put her own on

properly. No creature living takes more heed of externals than your orthodox man. He may not know the price, color or material of your clothes, but he will know to a nicety whether you are well or badly groomed. One special point I would impress upon the girl who desires to get all girls do to range herself well to make a good marriage is to be gentle. The crass for vivacity, for the free and easy style that borders so closely on the manners of the demi monde that distinguished the society of ten years ago has providentially died a natural death. Nowadays, men are sensible enough to look for comfort in their married lives. And surely the knowledge that one's future wife has a heart as tender as it is sympathetic should add, goes far to arrange a man's desires, of who shall be the partner of his daily life.—The Dubuque, in Ladies' Home Journal.

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Stoves for Comfort. Gasoline is the best fuel for summer. But one must be careful when using it. A stove with a double burner for wash boiler and oven and two single burners costs about \$15. Two and one-half gallons of gasoline, at a shilling per gallon, will do the cooking, washing and ironing one week for a family of four. The tank of the comfort. A kerosene lamp stove with one burner is very handy. A quart of water can soon be boiled on one.—Good Housekeeping.

Vassar Girls for Officers. It is said that Vassar graduates make the best presiding officers to be had for women's organizations. That institution enjoys a reputation of being conducted with great formality and with strict regard to parliamentary rules. A Vassar girl, therefore, gets a fine experience in such matters.—Exchange.

To Increase the Appetite. After cooking a meal a person will feel tired and as if he had no appetite. For this reason eat until light, stir in a little milk and sugar and season with nutmeg. Drink half an hour before eating. A raw egg well beaten and stirred into a glass of lemonade is refreshing and helpful to one who has little or no appetite.—New York Telegram.

Hubbubs Don't Like Hubbubs. Men like women with ideas of their own, but they are afraid of women with theories or hobbies. A woman with a hobby needs to be carefully blanketed and stable it away from the eyes of a man she desires to please.—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

ALL AROUND THE HOUSE. The Dainty and Delicate Drawing Room of Today—A New Tendency in Furnishings. An effect of delicacy and lightness is now popularly sought for in the paring room, rather than heavy, oppressive richness. The wood work throughout may appropriately be of old ivory color, picked out with gold, if desired, or with soft yellowish brown, which perhaps carries out better than gold the effect of the old ivory. The panels of wall space between the woodwork may be painted in a soft, pale yellow or cream color, or in a delicate shade of blue. The floor of low toned sienna mosaic covered with a large brown and yellow rug, into which is introduced, for the sake of contrast, a little peacock blue. The windows are filled with amber glass and pale blue bell's eyes. In the way of furniture there is a decided tendency toward wood without upholstery, except loose removable cushions of plush or brocade. As an example of this, The Philadelphia Press, by which the above scheme of coloring was suggested, describes an ideal cottage just furnished for a family of wealth, refinement and undoubted good taste. In it there is not one single piece of upholstered furniture, it all being of wood, either in the natural color or painted. That in the drawing room is of the palest description, and is of wood painted in old ivory, picked out with dull gold leaf, with dark gold plush cushions. All of the hangings are in "shadow silks," in which yellow predominates. The paper in the little parlor is pale yellow cartridge paper, with a yellow gold outline, while an archway that forms a cozy nook is papered with very dark blue cartridge paper on the walls and a brilliant yellow in arabesque patterns on the ceiling, which is carried down the walls to a depth of three feet. The dining room is in Pompeian red cartridge paper, with an indistinct figure in a different shade. The library is in Pompeian red cartridge paper, without figures, and has a very pale yellow ceiling in Japanese paper. In neither of these rooms is there any upholstered furniture, although the library abounds in cushions, and is luxurious in draperies.

Decorative Hints. Small corner cupboards are now liked for fitting into the corners of parlors, studies and bedrooms, for hiding away bottles and small things. Some are of unpainted natural wood, others in white wood ready for painting or staining or staining. That coarse stained colored article known as "strawboard" may be used for the panels of tall screens and the backgrounds of small photographic sets. It is most pleasant to paint upon and is firm and durable. If tinted first, and then body painted with oil, laid on thickly, and lastly varnished, or covered with glass, the appearance much resembles china. Large gilt picture frames with delicate tracery, such as are often found in the parlors of old houses, are now painted white, and have a cardboard mount covered with plain or pale colored brocade fitted into them, with various places for photographs. This frame is put on a small table in the corner of a room, with a scarf arranged at the top.

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