WOMAN'S REALM

THAT RIFLE PRACTICE

General Wingate Answers Women Critics of Schoolboy Shots.

"The soldiers of this country are pretty sore about the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and other women's clubs and women's societies that oppose rifle practice in the public schools," said General George W. Wingate, president of the New York Public Schools Athletic League, to a Tribune reporter yesterday. "Those women were the very people who wanted this country to go to war over the Armenian question. It was the sentimentalists of that type that hurried us into the war with Spain, when every military man in the United States knew that we were not ready for it.

"We are as far as possible from being ready for a war now, and war will come. I've seen four wars in this country in my brief span of life, and another is bound to come, sooner or later. The way to be prepared for war is to have plenty of citizens who can shoot straight. Few Americans know how to handle a rifle. We have plenty of athletes, the country is full of fine, young, well developed fellows, but they can't shoot."

"But won't it make boys bloodthirsty to teach them how to shoot?"

"That notion of the clubwomen is pure fallacy," said General Wingate. "It's absurd to say that because a boy or a man knows how to shoot he's going to go out on the street and shoot folks. Might as well say that learning how to box will make a man go about knocking people down. The man who knows how to use his fists is always slow to use them, and the man who knows how to shoot, as a rule, doesn't shoot unless he has good reason. He knows how serious it is.

"The Woman's Christian Temperance Union and the Women's Peace Circle, and all those organizations ought to be heartily in favor of rifle practice in the schools," added the president of the Public Schools Athletic League. "Why? Because they stand for temperance, don't they? and because rifle practice is the greatest factor for sobriety that exists. I've known thousands of riflemen, and I never saw one drunk yet. Shooting requires a steady hand, steady nerve and cool judgment. Why, take a man who wants to compete in one of the international rifle matches. He's got to be able to hold his rifle steady within the one-hundredth part of an inch, which is the thickness of a not very coarse needle. A man can't do that and be a drinker."

Boys are learning to shoot with great success in eleven of the high schools of New York City. "We don't try to teach the boys in the elementary schools," said General Wingate. "Boys under fourteen are too young. We take the high school boys and give them, in the first place, instruction with a sub-target gun machine. This machine consists of an upright standard with a horizontal rod at top; in front of the rod is a target like a visiting card. A rifle is attached to the machine and so adjusted that, while it can be moved freely, when the pupil takes aim at a target across the room and pulls the trigger the rod punches a hole in the miniature target in the precise relative place where the target would have been hit had the rifle been loaded.

"When the boys have had some practice with these machines in the school gymnasium we take those who show an aptitude for shooting and an interest in it—take them to one of the armories and drill them with rifles, loaded with small bullets. The pick of these boys is taken to Creedmore and taught to shoot in the open field.

"Some of these young marksmen are displaying great skill. I challenged the colonel of one of our state regiments—one famed for its crack shooters—to bring some of his men against a team of high school shooters, the match to take place in a shooting gallery, for, of course, our boys haven't had enough outdoor shooting to compete with old stagers at Creedmoor, and the colonel declined the challenge. He said that the boys could beat his men in an indoor match, and that he didn't care to have the regiment disgraced in that way.

"I'm in favor of teaching our schoolboys how to shoot," finished General Wingate, "because it's the best way, the only feasible way, for this country to keep prepared to defend itself in case of war. To quote President Roosevelt in his letter to the New York boy who stood first in high school rifle practice last year: 'The United States has a very small standing army. In time of war it must depend for defence upon hasty levies of volunteers, and it is a prime necessity that the volunteer should already know how to shoot if he is to be of value as a soldier. In no modern war would it be possible effectively to train men to shoot during the brief period of preparation before the army takes the field.'

"I'm in favor of teaching boys to shoot because the exercise is one of the best disciplines for hand and eye and mind, and because it tends to keep a boy straight. If he wants to be a good marksman he isn't going to spoil his aim, for instance, by cigarette smoking. And boys who can handle a rifle are no more bloodthirsty than those who can't. As I said before, that notion is bosh.

"Girls ought to learn to shoot, too," added General Wingate. "Now, my wife is a fine shot, and not long ago she found the accomplishment very useful. A rowdy got into the house when she was there alone and made a disturbance. She put my revolver to his head, and marched him out as neatly as you please."

MALICE AND ALL UNCHARITABLENESS.

Womankind's Besetting Sin and One Woman's Lenten Discipline.

"It is so futile—this ostentatious giving up during Lent," the speaker said reflectively as she leaned back after helping herself to some bonbons which her hostess passed from the tea table, saying, "I don't eat candy, myself, in Lent."

"Pardon my outspokenness," continued the guest, with a deprecating shrug. The two were intimate friends. "It is strange, anyway, that society in this country should observe Lent—or think it does."

"I agree with you," said the hostess unexpectedly. "It is shallow—a lot of this Lenten observance. I don't wonder that mankind and the newspapers make little thrusts at us women. But, seriously, with me there is another side to it. I give up something, usually sweets, partly because we can discipline ourselves in small matters as well as in larger ones, and partly to set an example of restraint to the children. Children learn most aptly from concrete illustration. Giving up is associated with self rule. That teaches an abstract fact. And so the giving away of what they save, to some little or big charity, teaches unselfishness. To this extent I believe in a definite self-penance, which, all things considered, may wisely be carried out during the Lenten period."

The visitor nodded approvingly. "But it is so often futile, and even absolutely inane," she continued, calmly, helping herself to more of the candy. "For instance, one woman I know told me she was going to keep Lent by playing 'bridge' with only two tables instead of four. That is a fine distinction, beyond me!"

"That is crude indeed," said the hostess. "Society observance of Lent is usually perfunctory. But I still maintain that the giving-up system has its value. In turn I can tell you of an acquaintance of mine who resolved on Ash Wednesday to stop finding fault or making critical comments on people for forty days. Of course, she broke her resolution within twenty-four hours. What woman of us could help that? She has kept on trying, however, for she insists that 'malice and all uncharitableness' are womankind's worst vices; and I think most of us would be amazed to find what a hold the habit of careless criticism has upon us."

"I grant that," replied the guest instantly. "I had the truth of it brought home to me the other day when a Japanese woman, keen minded and as yet 'unconverted,' said to me: 'You American women talk about each other very much. You all expect to go to heaven. I don't want to go to that kind of heaven.'"

"Conventionality is not morality," said the hostess, after a moment's thought; "least of all is it religion, though some people almost make it so. We women don't do much thinking, otherwise we would drop this appalling sin of uncharitableness. There is always to me, when I am dissecting the characteristics of somebody or other, a sense of self-righteousness about it, a kind of I-am-better-than-thou feeling."

Just then the other guests came in for tea and the conversation turned to the next gentle little "bridge" party—bridge itself having in large measure destroyed the habit of conversation nowadays.

BAGS OF MANY SORTS.

Simple and Cheap Receptacles for Travelling.

There was an invaluable maid in Kate Douglas Wiggin's stories of "Penelope in Scotland," "Penelope in Ireland," etc. She was a treasure in any number of ways, but her shining characteristic was that she made bags. All of Penelope's possessions were bagged, and thereby she travelled in peace and comfort and never worried about dust.

It is easy enough for any woman to do the same; if she has no maid to make bags, she can make them herself. Here, for instance, is the description of a hat bag which requires very little time or material for the making, but it is an immense boon when travelling.

BAGS FOR TRAVELLING.

Buy one and one-half yards of dimity or flowered Swiss, or any dainty, thin stuff. It is important to have it thin, so that it will fold into small compass in the dress suit case. From the half yard of cloth cut a circle eighteen inches in diameter; cut the remaining yard in half and sew the two pieces together at each end, to form the sides of the bag. Hem the edge which is to be the top of the bag, and about an inch and a half from the top stitch a casing for the drawing ribbon. Then the bottom of this piece is stitched on, quite straight, to the edge of the circle which forms the bottom of the bag. Press the seam, turn the bag right side out and run the drawing string—two yards of taffeta ribbon to match the cloth—through the casing.

When one is on the train the hat can be slipped into this bag in a minute and the bag hung on the hook over the seat. At the end of the journey the hat is as fresh as at the beginning, and the bag can be tucked away in a corner of the valise.

Probably many women would prefer to make the bag of some soft silk to match the costume. It is less conspicuous, and if the traveller wants to have two hats at hand, a small one to wear in the car and a larger one for the street, the one not in use can be slipped into the bag and carried over the arm. The bag is certainly less cumbrous than a hatbox.

A bag for rubbers is very necessary, too, when travelling. Take a piece of ecru linen, 9 inches by 12, and sew each of the two ends around a circle of linen four inches in diameter. This cylinder shaped bag is fastened at the side with a button and buttonhole.

The nightgown case is made after the same pattern, only, of course, it is much larger. Shoes should have separate bags, one for each shoe, and it is nice to have them made of linen which matches the shoes—brown for tan shoes, black for black shoes. The bags should be furnished with tapes, so each bagged shoe can be tied to its mate.

Somebody is always inventing new laundry bags, but the one with the flap, just out, is one of the cleverest. It is made of cretonne, and the back is cut four inches longer than the front. This piece is brought up and buttoned over the front; then when the clothes are to be removed one has simply to unbutton the flap and let them drop out, which is much easier than digging for them from the opening at the top.

SUNDAY RECREATIONS.

Homes Could Help Entertain Strangers, Says Dr. Stebbins.

The Rev. Dr. Henry H. Stebbins told the Guidon Study Club in the chapel of the Old First Church yesterday afternoon that there were still more happy homes in the country than unhappy ones, and that they might exercise a more potent influence for social redemption than any other agency now at work. Every home, he thinks, should be a social settlement, and one of the specific things they might do was to solve the Sunday afternoon problem.

"In Rochester," he said, "one of our gravest problems is to know what to do with the boys and girls, the young men and women, on Sunday afternoon. We tried a closed Sunday, in imitation of New York, but found that it wouldn't work. The Raines law hotels were never so full as after the Sunday evening concerts were stopped. So now a committee has been appointed to devise Sunday recreations. Something has got to be done, and done quickly. To-day is Saturday and to-morrow is Sunday. Let us try something, and if it doesn't work try something else the next Sunday.

"But the homes could solve a large part of this Sunday afternoon problem. The Bible, which is the most thoroughly up-to-date book there is, says when you propose to give a social function don't invite those who will entertain you in return. Invite instead the lame, the halt and the blind, who can make no return. There is more of that done than we think, but there ought to be a great deal more. There are many strangers in a city like this, but how many people in our churches think of inviting them to their homes. Why shouldn't there be Sunday afternoon teas for the young men and women who are away from their homes? They would rather go to a real home than to a Young Men's Christian Association. But you can't get people to do it."

ART IN THE COMMUNITY.

Henry George Finds Humor in the Topic Chosen by Press Club.

"There's an element of humor in this, after all," said Henry George when he had told the Woman's Press Club some grewsome facts about poverty in New York right in the middle of their "art afternoon" at the Waldorf-Astoria yesterday. "It's rather funny that I've contrived to inject single tax into an art festivity. But I always do inject it into everything."

Mr. George's subject was "Art in the Community." He held that the bread-and-butter question lay at the bottom of the thing he was to talk about. "John Rockefeller may have been right when he maintained that to have true art in a community you must have a few of the elect and give them time and wealth and leisure for its pursuit and appreciation," said the speaker; "but I don't believe he was right. That's not art in or for the community.

"There's a homely proverb that you can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear. When a man works for $1 a day and has five people to support there won't be much art in his soul. You've got to look out for your men and women or you won't have much art in your community. You can't begin at the top; you must begin at the bottom. The animal wants must be satisfied first.

"We can sit here and talk about art, but there'll not be much in the community until we get at this question of poverty. We have the worst city in the Western Hemisphere. I accompanied a Mexican to the Exhibition of Congestion in New York at the Natural History Museum, and he was aghast at it—said there was nothing like those conditions in his country. In a city where you find three married couples in certain quarters forced to sleep in the same room—what hope is there for art in the community? Little, till we get new conditions. We've got to stop thinking that New York City is for one small group of people, that the coal mines and the timber belts are for certain little groups of people. Tax that property, make it less hard for people to get art in the community."

William Ordway Partridge, who spoke on "Art from the Sculptor's Viewpoint," thought there was hope for the future of American art, "though you may doubt it," he admitted, "when you go out on the streets and see the statues that confront us there.

"What we need in America is appreciation of true art. I know young sculptors in this country who are capable of doing great work, but they are hampered by lack of opportunity, while people buy the silly fancies which are wrought in French ateliers to please the nouveau riche."

Nevertheless Mr. Partridge insisted that the great art of the future will come out of America, "for America," he said, "is most nearly like the country which produced the greatest art of antiquity. The Greeks were a free people; so are we."

Mrs. Grace Gallatin Seton was chairman of the day. Mrs. James S. Clarkson was chairman of reception.

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

While women fail to protect the upper and lower parts of their bodies sufficiently, they wear about their waists and hips a "torrid zone" of corset, belt and bands, according to Dr. E. C. Dudley, of the Northwestern University Medical College.

The average woman wears a total of seventeen layers of bands about her waist, Dr. Dudley estimates. At the same time her upper garments are "usually of some thin material, and may or may not, according to the caprice of fashion, cover the arms and upper part of the bust. A profusion of skirts is worn loosely around the lower extremities of the body, and the feet are held in a viselike grip of a thin, high heeled covering which resembles stilts more than shoes." This, says Dr. Dudley, is the reason why women get tired and exhausted after the slightest exertion.

"Sleep and be beautiful! Rest and preserve your charms!" That is what wise Englishwomen are saying to themselves nowadays and what they are doing most religiously. Many make a point of lying down for half an hour before luncheon and before dinner, or after eating, if it suits them better, on a couch heaped with cushions. And to make the rest sweet the cushions are filled with fragrant herbs and flower petals. Some very dainty women have cushions packed with roseleaves. Lavender tops are used, too, and pine needles, which have always been famed as sleep inducers. Some women insist that hops, loosely stuffed in the cushion covers, are the best thing to make one drowsy.

One English actress who is long past her fortieth birthday and yet is as clear skinned and bright eyed and youthful looking as a girl always sponges her face with hot milk and eau de cologne before lying down. Then she dries her face thoroughly, puts on a loose wrapper and makes herself comfortable in a darkened room.

"If one cannot get the proper amount of sleep at night," says this actress, "one should make up for the loss in the daytime."

One woman, who believes in getting all the fresh air she possibly can, takes her beauty sleep out on the lawn of her home. She spreads a rug on the grass, fixes an umbrella over her head to keep off the sun, if the sun is shining, and gets a much more refreshing nap, she says, than if she took it indoors. Even a slight rain does not keep her from her outdoor sleep, for she has an awning large enough to protect her body.

"It's making a new person of me," she says. "I don't know why I don't become a child again, for if feelings are anything I am five years younger each time I rise from my grassy couch."

Some women cannot sleep well for the simple reason that they never do enough work to make themselves healthily tired. There are German rest cures that know how to deal with such women. They make them work—that is all. If a patient has insomnia she is set at sweeping off the garden walks, raking up the cut grass, at all kinds of light outdoor tasks calculated to make her physically tired. And she does it all cheerfully, because it is part of an expensive "cure." She could do it all just as well at home, of course, but she never would. So she takes her course of labor because it is the thing to do, she is told, and soon, to her great delight, she finds herself ready for her healthy sleep at night, and generally quite willing to take a nap in the daytime also.

Clubs and Charities.

The Chicago Woman's Club of New York City announces two meetings for this week at the club rooms, No. 19 East 26th street. To-morrow evening there will be a musical, followed by an informal reception, in honor of the president, Mrs. "Dan" Everett Waid, who has just returned from a trip abroad. Saturday's meeting will be the regular monthly one. It is in charge of the department of philanthropy, of which Mrs. Miles M. Dawson is chairman.

For the benefit of the summer work of the Little Mothers' Aid Association a "society circus" is to be given at Durland's Academy on the evening of Saturday, April 25. It will be a real circus, with clowns, tumblers, horseback riders, automobile races, and with real pink lemonade and peanuts. Mrs. Thomas Carmichael, assisted by a committee, is in charge of the undertaking. Roy Orayne is chairman of the young men who will act as ushers. A bevy of girls will sell flowers and programmes, under the leadership of Mrs. John B. Cox, Mrs. G. A. Bround and Mrs. A. H. Wilmarth.

Tickets and boxes may be obtained of Mrs. Thomas Carmichael, No. 165 West 58th street.

The Continental Chapter of the Daughters of the Revolution had an interesting literary meeting on Monday at the home of Mrs. Smythe. The chapter will give a card party to-morrow at the Hotel Majestic, 72d street and Central Park West.

Auxiliary No. 16 of Stony Wold Sanatorium announces that it has arranged a recital and author's reading, by F. Hopkinson Smith, at the Horace Mann Auditorium, Teachers College, Columbia University, on Tuesday afternoon, March 31, at 3 o'clock. Tea will be served in the reception room after the reading. Tickets may be obtained from Mrs. Vincent Loeser, No. 329 West 108th street, or at the Horace Mann Auditorium.

Notices of the seventeenth annual meeting of the General Society, Daughters of the Revolution, to be held during the week of April 27 at the Waldorf-Astoria, have just been issued. Many delegates are expected, as this is the year when the election of officers occurs. Reports from the various state societies will also be presented, and seven proposed amendments to the constitution will be voted on. A programme covering the six days of the session has been arranged, and, besides a reception tendered by the New York State Society at the Plaza, a theatre party, various excursions to historic points and a banquet at the Waldorf-Astoria are planned. The officers whose terms will expire are Mrs. D. Phoenix Ingraham, president general; Mrs. Henry W. Heifer, recording secretary general; Miss Mary A. Kent, treasurer general; Miss Josephine Wandell, corresponding secretary general; Mrs. Joseph J. Casey, register general, and Mrs. George F. Daniels, historian general.

Dr. Grace Peckham Murray will give a tea on Saturday, April 4, at the Hotel Seymour, No. 50 West 45th street, to the Mount Holyoke alumnæ and undergraduates who may be in town during the Easter vacation. She will be assisted in receiving by the president of the New York alumnæ association, Mrs. J. D. Walton, and by the former presidents, Mrs. William I. Barry, Mrs. Edwin Atwell, Miss Ellen Parsons and Miss Charlotte Morrill. The Alumnæ Glee Club will sing.

The National Society of New England Women will hold a reception and luncheon, the last for the season, at Delmonico's next Tuesday. Among the speakers are Otis Skinner, who will talk about the drama, and Miss Helen Boswell, who will describe some of her experiences in Panama. Mrs. Camden Dike will speak on "The Master School of Music," and Miss Katherine Bissell on "Interest and Curiosity." There will be recitations by Fuji Eko.

Several cities are competing for the next annual convention of the National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education. The most active contestants are Atlanta, Ga., and Richmond, Va. Mayor Carlton McCarthy of Richmond telegraphed the board of managers of the society an invitation, in which he was joined by several Richmond organizations, among them the Chamber of Commerce and the Educational Society. The Virginia Mechanics' Institute offers the use of its building if the convention will come to Richmond. The board of managers has not made its decision, but the society will certainly hold its convention in the South.

The Woman's Democratic Club has hit on a new idea for its third annual dinner in honor of the birthday of Thomas Jefferson, which will take place at the Hotel Majestic, Thursday evening, April 2. Instead of the tables being numbered each will have a name, the name of some New York woman's club. The hostess at each table will be a member of the club whose name it bears. Of course she will be a member of the Woman's Democratic Club also.

As the president of the club will preside at the guests' table, her husband, John Sherwin Crosby, will take her place at the president's table; so one table will have a host, not a hostess.

At the table named after the Interborough Teachers' Association Miss Ellen O'Brien will preside;

MRS. CORNELIUS SULLIVAN.

Mrs. H. Johnston Wood, at the Woman's Suffrage Council table; Miss Florence L. Adams, at the New Englanders'; Mrs. Imogene King, at the Century Theatre Club; Mrs. C. Irving Ferris, at the Nurses' Visiting and Instructive Association; Mrs. Edyth Totten McGrath, at the New Yorkers'; Mrs. W. Martin Watson, at the Daughters of the Confederacy; Mrs. Meyer Greenberg, at the Jewish Woman's Relief; Mrs. Harry Compton, at the Irving Club; Mrs. H. G. Hollenberg, at the Gotham Club; Mrs. E. L. Hill, at the Woman's Peace Circle; Mrs. Theodore H. Whitney, at the Colorado Cliff Dwellings; Mrs. Jefferson Grube, at the Rainy Day Club; Mrs. J. Wells Wentworth, at the Business Woman's League; Miss Lucy Yendes, at the Progressive Women's Club; Mrs. Florence F. Jenkins, at the Euterpe Club; Miss Edith Ruffert, at the Woman Lawyers' Club; Mrs. James M. Bass, at the Woman's Press Club; Mrs. Thaddeus A. Smith, at the Little Mothers' Aid Association; Mrs. Camille Birnbohm, at the Knickerbocker Relief Association; Mrs. David Mason, at the Californians'; Miss Margaret Fitzgerald, at the 3d Assembly District; Mrs. William A. Sweetser, at the 15th Assembly District; Mrs. J. F. Court, at the 21st Assembly District; Miss May E. Rogers, at the 25th Assembly District, and Miss Amelia Kniel, at the 5th Assembly District table. Mrs. Joseph Peck bravely takes the table named after the 13th Assembly District. Mrs. Cornelius Sullivan will preside at the chairman's table.

The speakers will be John Temple Graves, Martin W. Littleton, Herman A. Metz, Judge Charles L. Guy, John Fitzgerald, Mrs. Philip Carpenter, Mrs. Belle de Rivera, Mrs. A. M. Palmer, Mrs. David Mason, Mrs. Alice Fisher Harcourt and Miss Grace Strachan.

Tickets may be obtained of Mrs. Cornelius Sullivan, No. 9 West 68th street.

An Easter sale will be held by the Pascal Institute school of domestic arts and science, at No. 576 Lexington avenue, next Thursday, between 1 and 6 o'clock, and Friday, between 10 a. m. and 6 p. m. Mrs. Walton Lent and Mrs. James Lees Laidlaw are chairmen of the day.

THE TRIBUNE PATTERN.

The plain gored skirt is an unquestioned favorite of the season and has many qualities to commend it. This one is novel, being closed by means of buttons and buttonholes at the front, and is admirably well adapted to linen, piqué and the like, as well as to wool and to silk.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is ten and five-eighth yards 24 inches wide, eight and five-eighth yards 32 inches, or

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five and one-fourth yards 44 inches wide if material has figure or nap; eight and five-eighth yards 24 inches, five and five-eighth yards 32 inches or three and three-quarter yards 44 inches wide if it has not. The pattern, No. 5,955, is cut in sizes for a 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inch waist measure, and will be mailed to any address on receipt of 10 cents.

Please give number of pattern and waist measure distinctly. Address Pattern Department, New-York Tribune. If in a hurry for pattern, send an extra 2-cent stamp and we will mail by letter postage in sealed envelope.

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The most conspicuous trait which has been revealed in the character of the oyster is its abhorrence of race suicide. An extremely fat and vigorous oyster has been known to produce as many as sixty million eggs, while sixteen millions is a fair average. Suppose there were but a single pair of oysters at the beginning, how many would there be in the fifth generation if every egg developed? If you can get the correct answer, it will be just exactly 65,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000.—Cassell's Saturday Journal.

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