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Time to Play

Americans Not Trained to Have Real Good Time

By MR. LYNN BOYD PORTER,
President Boston Press Club.

MOST persons born and reared in the United States know how to enjoy life in a rational manner (if their natural tendencies are not interfered with) till they are about 15 years of age. After that the boy does little playing unless he joins a ball team, in which case the "play" becomes pretty hard work; while the girl is taught that it is unladylike to romp and injurious to nice clothes, and therefore essays tennis and retains her dignity. Society demands a great deal of pose and gives time for very little repose.

The American man plunges into the serious affairs of life as if he had but few years to live, which very often is the case. His recreation, if he takes any, is as a spectator, either at the theater or some ball or cricket money game, neither of which call his own muscles into play. He wants to make money and make it quickly, after which he intends to take a genuine rest. Those of us who have met the worn-out man of business abroad, trying to enjoy a journey for which he has had no preparation, know what a failure this plan is.

The American woman as a rule (there are exceptions, of course) cares greatly for display, in which she indulges according to the length of her husband's purse. She does a lot of things that weary and bore her, because society has apparently decreed that one must do them. How seldom we meet here the family groups seen at every turn in Europe, happy just to be in each other's company, on veranda or lawn at home or on short excursions. With us papa is "busy," mamma is giving a pink tea to-day, the elder sons and daughters think picnicking too juvenile for them.

To be wholly happy I think one must become again, in thought, feeling and action, a child. It is good to hear the outburst of laughter at a continental theater or circus, when the comedian or clown cracks a joke. It is charming to encounter the care-free groups in Bois or at the Dutch seaside.

Of course there is much enjoyment in America; and of course it is the finest land the sun shines on, except a few. But as a nation we haven't learned how to have a real good time without becoming overstrained. A hundred outdoor restaurants in the Greater Boston park system, where one could dine al fresco—graduated to suit all purses—would introduce a delightful feature of foreign life, to the benefit of thousands.

Lynn Boyd Porter

Woman Indulge Thy Husband

By DR. PAUL MATEOZZA.

Excuse the gross and arithmetical comparison. Suppose that happiness be represented by the number 100, and that in order to attain this figure the co-operation of husband and wife is necessary.

If you commence on your part by contributing 70 or 80 your companion will need to give but 20 or 30 and the sum always will be reached. If you can give 90 you will secure it the more readily, since he will donate but ten. I know happy households where the wife gives 99 and the husband only one. The generous wife never finds her spouse too niggardly. The sum always is complete and the happiness perfect.

Woe to you if you hold forth to your husband that you do not wish to offer more than 50, neither more nor less. Your exactness will offend him, and his tribute to the domestic bliss soon will reduce to minute proportions. Exact little, exceedingly little, of your husband, and you will have gone more than half way along the path that leads to the peace of the fireside. This done, all that the man, ever an egotist and always less loving than the woman, concedes to you will come like an unexpected gift, a dear surprise. If, on the contrary, you measure the happiness of the family in the balance of justice you will expose yourself to the most disagreeable surprises, to the bitterest disillusion.

Girls when they marry know men only by novels. These men either are demons or angels. The men that pass their lives in cities, and not on the pages of romance, rarely are devils, and they never are angels. They are graceful animals—when they are handsome—who love themselves above everything else in the world, even above their wives. They are intelligent, featherless bipeds who seek in the wife an increase of their own ease, or a keeper of the house, a lovable and beautiful little machine with which they can perpetuate their family, a companion to their pleasure, a nurse in their invalidisms.

Begin then by contributing a double part to the sum of domestic felicity. The New Testament said, "Love your neighbor as yourself." To a woman it should be said: "Love your husband more than yourself." And if she has not married a man unworthy the name, an egotist of ice, he will love her the more because she always loves him, and loves him much.

Vigorous American Plays Needed

By WILLIAM H. CRANE,
the Actor.

We need more vigorous American plays. There are only three or four persons in the country who can write up to the spirit and demands of the time. The taste of the public has improved very much. Good acting and good plays have become absolutely necessary. Jefferson said that he once painted with a whitewash brush, putting on the colors roughly, with a daub here and splotch there, but that he had to learn to use a camel's-hair brush because his audiences wanted fine lines, soft shadows and lights and delicate treatment throughout. In my earlier days we went at the public with a club and whacked them with the raw facts. Nothing was left to the imagination. We had a habit, too, of saying, "Well, that third act alone will save the play." Fancy anyone thinking such a thing now. Besides, there must be an absorbing, vivid and coherent story. Moreover, it must be reasonable and an accurate picture of life. Great sums of money also are spent for scenery, whereas at one time a grove of ridiculous trees or a hideous castle painted on muslin would do well enough,

NATIONAL CEMETERY

ARLINGTON, BURIAL GROUND FOR COUNTRY'S HEROES.

Site Once the Home of Robert E. Lee
—Taken Possession of by United States at Outbreak of the Civil War.

Washington.—The story of Arlington is interwoven with the story of America. The beauty and the solemnity of that national necropolis make a touching appeal to the thousands of pilgrims that annually visit it.

The builder of Arlington house and its first occupant was George Washington Parke Custis, adopted son of George Washington. The wife of George Washington Parke Custis was Mary Lee Fitzhugh of Virginia and this lady was the first mistress of Arlington house. The daughter of George Washington Parke Custis and Mary Lee Fitzhugh was Mary Ann Randolph Custis, who on June 30, 1831, was married at Arlington to Lieut. Robert E. Lee, Engineer corps, U. S. A. Lieut. and Mrs. Lee continued to reside at Arlington and on the death of her father, March 26, 1855, Mrs. Lee inherited the estate. It was the home of Robert E. Lee and his family until April 22, 1861, when he left Richmond and it was on that day that Gov. Letcher and the convention of Virginia appointed Lee commander-in-chief of the military forces of Virginia.

It was in December, 1778, that John Parke Custis of Abingdon bought from Gerald Alexander 1,100 acres of land opposite Georgetown, now a part of the city of Washington. The price paid was 1,100 pounds sterling. He called the new place Arlington in memory of the old Custis seat across Chesapeake bay. The Alexander family (hence the name "Alexandria") had bought 6,000 acres of land, including Arlington, for six hogheads of tobacco from Robert Howson, who had



Temple of Fame at Arlington.

obtained the land from Sir William Berkeley, governor of Virginia, as a recompense for bringing immigrants to the colony.

It was not long after the resignation of Robert E. Lee from the United States army and the withdrawal of the Lee family from Arlington that the United States government took possession of the place.

The heights commanded Washington and their occupation by federal forces was looked upon as a military necessity.

During the war camps and hospitals were scattered over that high country and on the Arlington estate. Men who died there were at the outset buried in the Soldiers' Home cemetery in Washington. However, in the spring of 1864 Gen. Rucker and Capt. James M. Moore reported that Arlington was a most eligible site for a national cemetery, and Gen. Montgomery C. Meigs, on May 13, 1864, ordered that interment be made there. On that day a number of men who died in the Arlington and surrounding hospitals were laid under the sod at Arlington.

It is said that the first interment made at Arlington was that of the body of a confederate prisoner, L. Reinhardt, twenty-third North Carolina infantry, who died of wounds received in battle.

At the close of the civil war bodies were gathered from the battlefields of northern Virginia and from the old camp sites, and reinterred at Arlington. The graves of Arlington have been growing in number till there are now about 30,000 of them. More officers of the army and navy are buried there than in any other cemetery, perhaps in all other national cemeteries, in the United States. Soldiers and ex-soldiers and sailors have the right of burial at Arlington and beautiful grave sites are provided by the quartermaster's department of the army for officers and their wives.

Early in 1864 Arlington was ordered to be sold for taxes and the place was bought by the national government for a trifling sum. Mrs. Lee died in 1873 without contesting the government's title, but her son, George Washington Custis Lee, sued to have the sale set aside as invalid. The case finally was decided by the supreme court of the United States in favor of Lee. He then sold the estate to the government for \$150,000.

In the southwest part of the grounds are the graves of Custis, the builder of Arlington, and his wife. Over these graves are two marble monuments erected by their daughter, Mrs. Robert E. Lee.

The memorial exercises held at Arlington May 30 every year are imposing and impressive.

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