

# How I Was Presented To the Pope

BY A CALIFORNIA GIRL.

WE accidentally made the acquaintance of one of the dignitaries of the church, Monsignore V., who proved to be a valuable and charming friend. We availed ourselves of his invitation and visited him several times in his apartments, Rue Crociferi. We were received by an aged and dignified female who, after our first visit, greeted us most effusively and always on our waiting list. Monsignore happened to be out, thus indicating that our presence was agreeable to the master. We were discreet enough not to call for nearly a week, but our curiosity to see how a priest lived and received in Rome induced us finally to venture.

The apartments consisted of a number of rooms, those we saw being lofty and vast and distinguished by that coldness and somberness that is so characteristic of Italian interiors. Our host was very unaffected and communicative and we passed many pleasant and profitable hours with him. On the floor above was the apartment of his aged father, of whom he spoke in the most affectionate terms, declaring that upon his death he should retire to a monastic life. On the ground floor was his private chapel and we were invited and attended a special function therein at a later date.

Before leaving we were asked why we had not figured in a large reception held by his Holiness the preceding day. We answered that we were only passing through Rome and knew no one nor had we brought any credentials with us. We had heard that it was very difficult to obtain admission to one of these receptions and we had not even dreamed of attempting it.

Our kind host immediately informed us that he would be delighted to render us this little service.

Little! when we knew of people who had traveled thousands of miles and had spent many dollars in vain efforts to attain this privilege.

We were galled upon us a few days later, but he left word that the Pope would accord a private reception to a select few in a couple of days and that we had but to see our Consul and obtain his guarantee and he would admit us to the rest. Our dear little hostess was all in a flutter over the advent of our distinguished visitor whom she had received in our absence and assured us that we were most fortunate in having such a powerful friend. The next evening the huissier of the Pope arrived in his quaint costume, bringing us our formal invitation, for which he received his proper pouchoire.

Fortunately for us, the regulation toilet was of the simplest—a plain black dress, a black veil in lieu of a bonnet and no gloves. Even our slender wardrobe was equal to this emergency, with the aid of our lively hostess who lent us one lace scarf and who arranged our headgear for us in graceful and picturesque manner. My friend looked very handsome with her beautiful white hair framed in by the black lace, and I, being dark, could easily have passed for an Italian.

Before dressing, my thoughtful companion, who was born a Catholic and consequently understood the value of such things, bought a number of rosaries, crosses and medals, intending to have them blessed and then distribute them among more fervent devotees than herself.

As we drove in our open carriage the entire length of Rome, for our apartments were near the Pincio, we felt a very unchristian spirit of pride animating us, for we knew that every one was aware of our destination. It seemed strange when we arrived in front of the magnificent temple of St. Peter to turn to the left, and entering a gate, drive behind the immense pile. We were duly deposited and armed with our invitation, were piloted along corridors and up a noble staircase, through several handsome apartments, from the windows of which we could see into the pleasant gardens, where his Holiness takes his exercise and his simple recreation.

The room into which we were finally ushered was square and lofty, with a green carpet on the floor and hung with superb tapestries which we had full leisure to admire. Otherwise it was devoid of furniture save a row of chairs along the four walls. We were among the last to enter and interposed ourselves while waiting with watching our companions and wondering what motives had brought them there, doubting not but that as many came from pride or curiosity as from real devotion.

We were surprised to find that the men outnumbered the women, and that most of them had uninteresting and unintelligent faces. There were several priests and one very large fine looking German. Most of the company were supplied with souvenirs like ourselves, and a priest who sat next to us had a large flat box filled with tiny medals. There must have been hundreds of them.

He will draw a fine revenue from that," whispered my friend. "There are thousands of people who would pay handsomely for a medal blessed by the Pope's own hands."

While we were waiting, a lady and her daughter passed through the room into the apartment beyond, in which his Holiness was ready to receive them. Many were the whispers around us as to the wealth and influence which, indeed, must be great to have attained such a signal honor. She was a foreigner, of course, and had spent many thousands of dollars on the church.

It was probably true, but we knew that money was not always necessary to obtain such privileges. In a quarter of an hour the ladies came bustling through with an air of great importance. It seemed to us that they had visibly swelled.

Suddenly there was a slight hum and two ushers entered and announced his Holiness.

Every man rose, and then, as the venerable man entered, all knelt—with the exception of the tall German and his buxom wife. Though a wretched heretic myself, I did not mind kneeling before the reverend man who stood before us, partly supported by two ushers. These ushers had coats of red headed silk, short breeches, stockings and low shoes.

His Holiness wore a long full cap of plain white wool, a white skull cap and a heavy flowing red cloak, which was sustained by the ushers. His face, so familiar to the world from his excellent portraits, is not handsome, but it is full of a lofty intelligence, a shrewd common sense and a kindly humanity that make it singularly sympathetic and winning.

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In the case of wounds from fragments of shell there is much danger from the lodgment of foreign substances; bits of the projectile itself, shreds of clothing, etc., often being deeply imbedded in the flesh. These must be carefully removed or they will infect the wound and cause serious trouble. The clothing immediately over the wound is always carefully examined to see if any portion of it is missing, which has probably been carried into the flesh.

The men at the guns are carefully instructed to avoid touching wounds with their hands, smeared as they must be with powder and grease.

The golden rose which the Pope gives every year to a royal lady distinguished for loyalty both to the Pope and to the Church of Rome is made of pure gold, and is valued at £2000. There is a golden rose in the center, in which the Pope pours balsam, this being surrounded with smaller rosebuds and leaves, all of the purest gold, and chiseled with exquisite workmanship.

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tonishingly few. In strict attention to duty the Japanese officials of all rank rival the Germans, but while the latter are somewhat stiff and overbearing in manner, the Japanese are very polite.

Two cannie Scots walking to Auchtermuchty saw an uncouth figure standing in a distant field. After gazing intently one said:

"It's never moving, so it's tattie (potato) bogie" (scarecrow).

"It's no tattie bogie," replied the other. "It's a man working by the day."

There are in the entire world 51,000 breweries. Germany easily heads the list with 26,240; next comes England with 12,874, then the United States with 2,900. Austria has 1,942 breweries, Belgium 1,270, and France 1,044.

All poisonous serpents have movable fangs, which are found in the upper jaw, and when not in use close up like the blade of a penknife. The fang is provided with a duct leading to the poison sac, and the virus is ejected through this duct by pressure. At the base of every poison fang there are numerous germs of others, and the fang broken or lost is replaced in a few weeks by the growth of another.

ing and diversion, if we remember also that nothing offers them in such agreeable form as this, that or the other game.

The first settlers in this country needed no sports for their training or for their diversion. Building their own houses, their own roads and bridges, and defending the same from their savage neighbors, were enough. Civilization in those rough years was a gymnasium in itself, a gymnasium too, that every citizen was obliged to attend. But increased prosperity, and, above all, steam and electricity, not only in America, but in Europe, have done away with the necessity for daily daring and for constant physical exercise.

Mankind, however, knows intuitively that luxury is his most insidious foe. If we are no longer obliged to ride, or to walk, in order to see our friends or to attend to our business, then we turn to and make a business of riding or walking, or shooting and fishing, or climbing mountains and hunting wild game, to keep alive in us the harder virtues, which in the beginning made our forefathers capable of winning a place for us in the world. As the necessity for physical exertion lessens among us, the artificial incentives to physical exercise increase, and make ever more and more disciples. As wars become less frequent gymnasiums and field sports increase in number and popularity.

It is often said, as an objection to this argument, that a man can learn self-control and show high courage just as well by doing his duty, whatever and wherever it happens to be. It is not necessary that we should have wars, or rough games like football or polo, to steady the nerves of our young men, to give them courage and to teach them to take care of themselves. The controversies and temptations and hard tasks of daily life are enough. This is quite true. Taking care of a sick and peevish child is a tremendous test of patience and gentleness. Bearing the frowns of fortune with cheerfulness and in silence shows courage. Keeping oneself well in hand through the various worries of daily life, in business, profession, or in the home, is a constant schooling of the nerves.

Riding a horse over a five-barred gate or across a water-jump is a test of horsemanship, but before these can be successfully negotiated it is necessary to have some training at simpler feats of riding. Thus it is with those other matters. The lad who has learnt self-control, fair play and good temper at his games finds it easier to exercise these same high qualities in the more complicated emergencies of daily life. The boy who has ridden about the paddock on his pony with a blanket for a saddle will take the water-jump just so much more easily.

There is a German proverb which runs, "When the devil cannot go himself he sends an old woman!" There is just enough of truth in this old-woman argument against our rougher games to lead one to believe that the devil sent her.

The nation which governs almost one-fourth of the earth's population, and upon the whole governs well, spends over two hundred millions annually upon sport, and has invested in the same way an even greater sum. Perhaps there is no higher test of a man's all-round abilities than his power to govern wisely; at any rate, it is a truism to be borne in mind in this connection, that the governing races today are races of sportsmen.

The people who play games are inheriting the earth, perhaps because it makes them more energetic. As a matter of fact, we think it does just that, among other things.

The French do not play games, and Benjamin Kidd has shown how the population of France is steadily decreasing, the deaths having outnumbered the births there for several years past.

The Spaniards do not play games, and travelers in and students of Spain, and the Spaniards, agree that their two most salient characteristics are overweening personal pride and cruelty.

The Chinese despise unnecessary physical exercise, and can scarcely be driven to fight, even for their country, and their lack of decision and their pulpy condition of dependence are now all too manifest.—From Outing.

The office of commander in chief of the British army dates back to 1660.

India's army costs 2,225 officers and men—73,865 British and 150,953 native.

The Duke of York entered the navy as a midshipman just twenty years ago. His princely rank has not helped him much in the way of promotion.

The custom of taking the "Queen's shilling," by which it is understood the taking of the coin by a man constitutes his enlistment, ceased to exist seventeen years ago.

The wages bill for the building of a modern battleship generally amounts to nearly £200,000. The wages bill for the construction of the battleship Colossus was £250,000.

Emergency rations have been served out to the troops now in Egypt. This is in case "Tommy" is lost in the desert or left on the battlefield, or in any other way cut off from supplies.

It appears that war correspondents were used long before our time, as far back as the time of Edward II. Scribes, specially commissioned, were sent up with the English army which invaded Scotland at that time. One of them completed his task, but the other was captured at the battle of Bannockburn. Incredible as it may sound, not one of the London newspapers was specially represented at the battle of Waterloo, and the descriptions we have of the fight are from the pens of officers present.

Thirty years ago ten or twelve knots an hour was reckoned to be the highest speed attainable by our warships. This first fleet of ironclads did not exceed this. The speed of the ships of the present day shows how vastly superior they are to the battleship of '66. The 20 or 21 knots which our largest battleships steam at today represents an increase of 22 miles an hour, and several of the torpedo boat destroyers now undergoing their trials can steam nearly 35 miles an hour.

Some interesting notes have just been published on the safes which have been excavated from the ruins of great fire in cities. One safe by a leading firm had the brass handles and fittings completely melted and run into the key-hole, the contents of the safe being unharmed. Safes protected by brick work or in cellars and basements generally escaped, and those taken out of the ruins gave the best results. Safes falling from upper stories into the center of moving fires were especially well protected, and their contents charred beyond recognition. The leaves of many account-books were completely red-hot and handled, although as black as coal, and the writing in ink was completely invisible, while, curiously enough, the ticks and corrections in pencil alone

# How Outdoor Sports Make a Nation

FEW people realize how great is the part played by sport in the life of a nation. Most of us think of the hour or two spent at some form of exercise as a pastime which has little or no bearing upon the political or economic life about us. It is when the figures of expenses paid for sport are put before us that we realize that such enormous sums of money represent an element, either for good or for evil.

But let us look at the matter from another standpoint. An accepted authority upon all matters of sport in Great Britain has compiled within the last few years some figures as to the investments and expenditures upon sport by the, in round numbers, 40,000,000 inhabitants of those islands. His estimates, which have been criticized mainly, he it said, because they are too low, are:

	Invested.	Spent
Fox hunting .....	\$78,005,000	\$43,750,000
Shooting .....	20,235,000	40,640,000
Fishing .....	2,750,000	2,945,000
Racing .....	1,500,000	55,000,000
Yachting .....	28,000,000	15,160,000
	\$170,730,000	\$155,500,000

But even these enormous sums are by no means the whole of the budget. The same writer estimates that courting costs, in investment, \$2,600,000, and in yearly expenditures \$1,587,000; coaching, \$1,451,250 in investment and \$1,188,975 in yearly expenditure; polo costs the votaries \$425,000 in invested capital and \$552,500 in annual expenditure; golf (there are some 700 golf links in Great Britain now), \$2,825,000 invested in laying out of links, buildings of clubhouses, purchase of clubs, bags, etc., and \$3,627,750 annual expenditures for labor, keeping up clubhouses, caddies, professional salaries, golf balls and the other necessary expenses, including traveling; rowing, invested, \$1,420,000; annual expenditure \$2,871,500; football and cricket, invested, \$53,875,000, annual expenditure, \$58,569,000, as these figures have not been seriously questioned among the sportsmen of Great Britain we may infer that some \$233,066,250 are invested permanently and \$223,887,725 spent annually for sport. When the aggregate expenditures in any one direction reach such proportions as these we may be sure that the people who tax themselves thus heavily have, at any rate the great majority of them, satisfied themselves that there is an equivalent of some kind that justifies the expenditure. These two amounts combined only fall short of equaling the total value of our exports to Great Britain and her dependencies for the year 1897 by less than \$50,000,000.

Perhaps an Englishman would say that these expenditures had had a good deal to do with the fact that Great Britain has now supreme lordship over eleven million square miles of the earth's surface, inhabited by a population equaling in the aggregate probably one-fourth of the total population of the earth. But whatever explanation is offered the fact remains the same, and this particular fact looms so large, not only in Great Britain, but in America, that it is worth considering. How has it come about that we are now willing to give so much time, money and attention to sport? What returns do we get for our money? What does sport teach us of such great value that our cousins across the water are willing to pay this new pedagogue so Brodiganian a salary?

We may answer these questions, and find our explanation of the present apparently exaggerated position of sport—if such explanation exists at all—by grouping the benefits to be derived from sport under their two main heads, namely, the benefit to be derived from training and the benefit to be derived from diversion. Not only are muscles and sinews strengthened and hardened, but the temper and the will are trained, as well. The man who learns to spar, for example, not only schools his eye, his hands and his feet to respond quickly when called upon, but he learns also, and what is far more important, to keep his temper under control and to take a wounding cheerfully; and if a man can translate these lessons to serve in the larger affairs of life, where temper is often tempted and where poundings are meted out to all of us with pretty even impartiality, he has learned a valuable lesson.

But every sport has also the valuable effect of diverting both mind and body. The sharp gallop of a round of golf, the week's yachting, changes the current of one's thoughts, and rests the mind as well as the body. Every sport, in short, offers its votaries training and diversion; all the benefits to be had from sport group themselves under these two heads. The lad at his rowing, his football, his baseball or his tennis, needs the training more than the diversion, while his father riding, shooting, golfing or yachting, needs the diversion more than the training. But both the boy and the man get both a necessary training and a necessary diversion from their pastimes, whatever they are.

If, however, training and diversion are all sport has to offer, can such benefits as these account for the huge expenditures or for the honorable position of the best class of advocates of sport? The answer must be "Yes." But the answer is willingly "Yes," if we stop to consider the value of train-

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