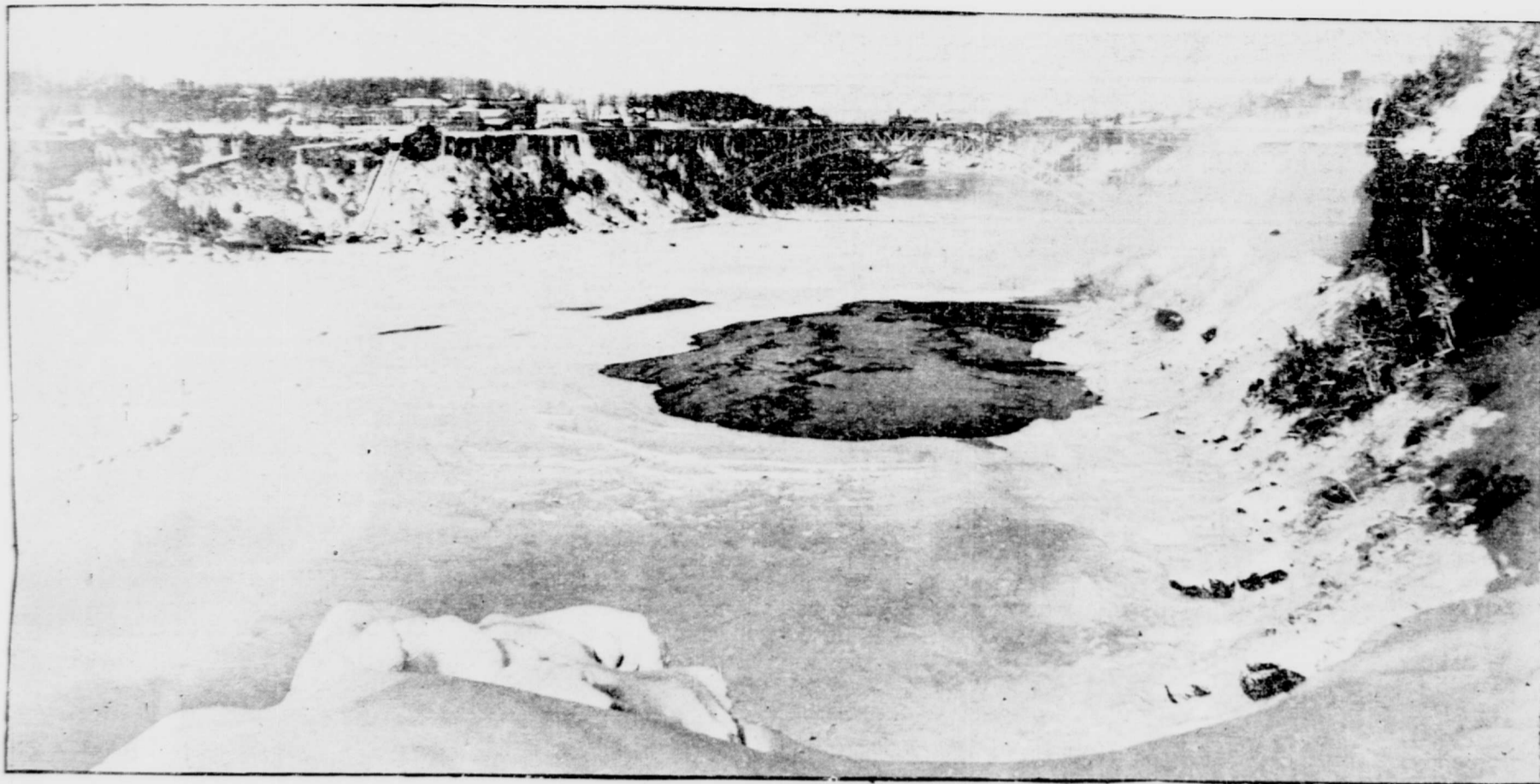


NIAGARA'S ROARING GORGE WAS BRIDGED LAST WEEK BY ICE, AND MANY CROSSED ON FOOT.



ICE BRIDGE VIEWED FROM THE BRINK OF THE HORSESHOE FALL.

ATTENTIONS TO WOMEN.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AMERICAN AND ENGLISH CUSTOMS.

Over in London just now they are having a spirited revival of discussion over the question, "Are Englishmen more selfish in their attentions to women than their American brothers, and do American women demand much more of the men they know than their sisters in the King's country?" A certain Mrs. Tweedie started it this time by publishing recently in an English newspaper, "The Daily Mail," some interesting conclusions which she had reached after some cross-questioning of both men and women. The pith of her findings was that Englishmen were sadly remiss, due, perhaps, to the fact that English women expected little of them, and that American girls were far more sensible in deciding not to waste hospitality over those who would not return it. All this may be very logical, but it does not suit any of the parties concerned, unless it is the English woman, who has always held to the meek and lowly role which becomes her pink and white color scheme.

The young men in London have gone after Mrs. Tweedie with a series of semi-humorous replies. They retort that no English girl would ever expect a man to take her riding in the park, send her flowers and candy and buy her boxes at the theatre. Their fathers are willing and ready to supply these things, along with the entertainment of any and all young men the girls choose to honor. They assert that this is as it should be, and that the American girl who makes her hospitality contingent on its being returned in some way really loses in the end. Englishmen say they wish they could relieve themselves of the feeling of social liability in as easy a way, for as it is they suffer under it, and have no hope of ever getting even.

The discussion does not become really interesting, however, until taken up with a popular American girl, one who is living and wants to keep on living in New-York.

"The very idea!" one exclaimed in her surprise, when the matter was brought to her attention. "The person who said that American girls only entertained that they might be paid back in the same coin either didn't know us or was deliberately telling awful stories."

"And why do you entertain?" she was asked. "What a question! Don't I like to give my friends a good time? Do you know any better way of adding to your own happiness than by being hospitable? This commercialism, if there was anything in it, would spoil the whole thing. Hospitality with strings to it is no hospitality at all."

"But you are always going some place with the men whom you entertain here. Isn't that returning your hospitality?" asked the man.

"You mean to insinuate that I am 'working' them, do you?" she sniffed. "If you could hear them beg to take me to places, and see the many ways in which I refuse to allow them to send me things, you would never have the boldness to make a charge like that."

"You are a fortunate girl!" replied the man, smiling. "I can see how a man might be desirous of even having you indebted to him for a round or two of pleasure. But how about the plain American girl, the one who isn't charming?"

"Stop it, sir!" she interrupted with mock severity. "There are no plain American girls. They are all charming, and if they had the slightest idea that a man was asking them out simply to return previous hospitality I don't believe they'd go a step."

The New-York man only laughs at the one who asks him about it. "So they think we are better to our girls than the English chaps are to theirs," he will say. "Well, I don't know. Perhaps we have more reason. There is no girl like the American girl, is there, now? She is the finest in the world. Sort of foolish to charge her with commercialism along the lines of hospitality. That would be sort of 'working' the men, wouldn't it, now? Americans are not easily 'worked,' and the girls know too much to try it, even if it was necessary. We take them out to theatres and send them candy and flowers, to be sure, but we do it because we like them, not to square the hospitality account."

CHILDREN MAKE A COMBINATION PLAY.

Half a dozen Staten Island children, boys and girls whose ages range from twelve to fifteen, have had a craze for amateur theatricals for some time. They cross the ferry and go up to the Broadway playhouses just as often as their parents can be persuaded to give permission. Then they go home and repeat as much of the play as they can remember, which usually includes all of the fighting and loving parts, and much of the humor. They were invited to end the holidays with a house party at a West Seventieth-st. home. The hostess knew of their fondness for acting, and asked them to produce a play for the Saturday evening entertainment of a few older guests. The children were delighted, and rushed off to talk it over.

"What shall we play?" was the cry at first. "Don Caesar's Return," answered one. "Monsieur Beaucaire," insisted another.

Soon there were two factions, each determined that the play they favored should be the one produced. A suggestion that they compromise on "D'Arcy of the Guards" did not meet with favor. At last some one suggested that they make a combination of "Beaucaire" and "Don Caesar."

The youthful dramatist sat down to sketch

out the scene plan, while the others searched for furniture and costumes. There was no trouble about memorizing lines. They learned in a general way what scenes were to be used, and trusted to memory and invention as the spur of the moment to furnish the words. They had the stage "business" well in hand, and the action would be spirited at least.

There was some trouble, too, about assigning parts. There were not enough boys to go around, and the girls were shy about taking masculine roles. It was at last decided that the tallest girl would have to play King Philip of Spain.

"My mother will not let me put on trousers," cried the girl. "Why, she would even be shocked at bloomers."

They got around it by dressing her in a man's coat and top boots. There was room under her plumed hat to conceal her hair, and she really made a striking young knight.

The various scenes were carried out according to plan, and the audience was somewhat amazed at the cleverness of the youngsters. They saw how delightfully the two strenuous plays had been thrown together to make a drama of action and little else.

"And what do you call the combination?" asked one of the men who had watched the performance with interest.

"An Ancient Rough House," was the answer.

THE CORONATION CLUBS.

From The London Chronicle.

The coronation clubs, formed for the purpose of providing people with clothes for the forthcoming ceremony, can have the satisfaction of knowing that they would not have been allowed to exist in Elizabeth's reign. The "virgin" Queen's love of pageants and fine clothes proved so infectious that laws had to be made to control the dress of citizens. Merchants' wives were forbidden to wear "monstrous hats in garish colors, which are winked at and borne within the court," and had to content themselves instead with knitted white woollen caps. It is something to feel that the flower girls have altered all that nowadays, and that the winking is done, as it were, with the other eye. Apparently, too, the modish woman already sent to Paris for her gowns; for another regulation of the same period forbade any but the nobility to wear woollen stuffs that were manufactured on the Continent. And even Queen Alexandra's kindly hint in support of home industries will scarcely dissociate chiffons from the land of their birth.

NIAGARA IN WINTER BEAUTY.

ICE BRIDGE FORMED LAST WEEK AND MANY PEOPLE RUSHED TO SEE IT.

An ice bridge formed at Niagara last week, and the large number of persons who rushed to see it proved that among the winter excursions the one to Niagara Falls is growing in popularity every year. The tourist who visits this resort, on which Nature has lavished so much to interest and awe him, usually makes the trip in the regular vacation season and sees the majestic pictures under a summer sky. Those who go there at this season of the year, when the surrounding landscape is clothed in its winter garb of ice and snow, find more to interest them than they did in the summer season. The trees are covered with a heavy coating of ice, in the rapids great blocks of ice rock up and down like ships in a storm, and the mountains of ice formed by the spray on both sides of the falls sparkle in the cold sunlight.

Below the falls is the ice bridge, the most wonderful of Niagara's winter attractions, over which thousands of visitors pass, and from which they gain a fine view of frozen Niagara.

FAMILIAR ONLY IN NAME.

From The Washington Star.

The steeplechase was on when young Mrs. Torkins took her place in the grandstand.

"Charley, dear!" she exclaimed. "There is no telling where in the world those horses are going next."

"Not unless you are familiar with the course."

"Why don't they run straight ahead?"

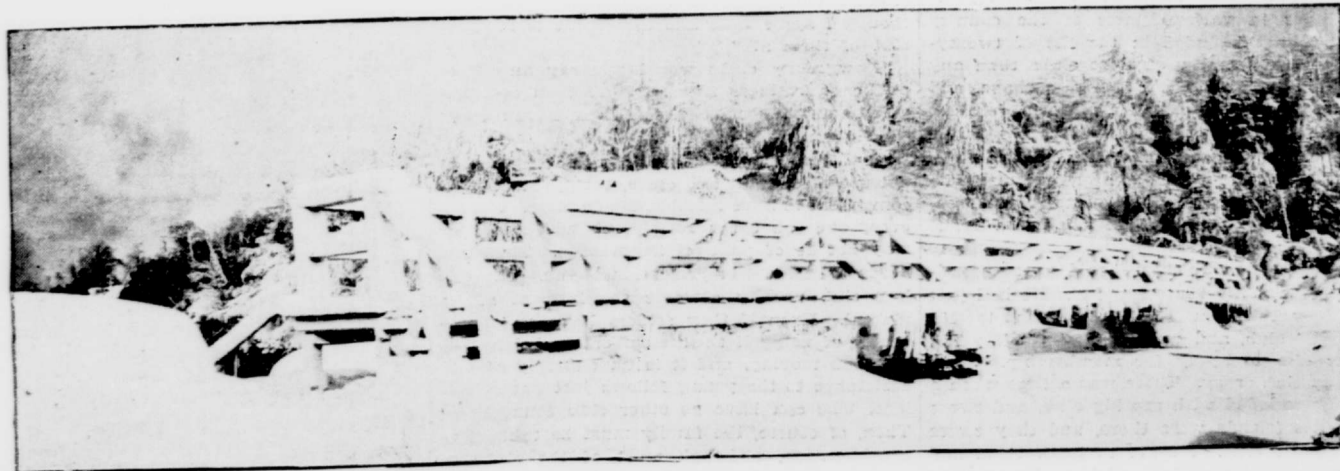
"Because it is not that kind of a race."

"Oh, I understand. This is one of those crooked races I have read so much about. I am so glad to have a chance to see one."

FEMININE GAMBLING.

From The Arensburger Tageblatt.

The ladies of the town of Arensburg are passionate card players. Since they are not allowed to play at the local clubs, they make up games at their friends' houses and gamble all day through. As soon as the cash funds run short they take to various articles, mostly toilet belongings. Thus one lost to another her corset, one lost a bonnet, a third some lace and perfumes, and they go even so far as losing their prayerbooks.



THE FOOTBRIDGE LEADING TO TERRAPIN POINT.