

Half of College Women Old Maids, Declares Savant

Other Interests and Realization of Marriage Responsibilities Are to Blame, He Says.

Berkeley, Cal., Dec. 3.—A verbal bombshell breaking the peaceful ways of public interest and carrying endless discursive opportunities in its wake has been launched by Prof. Samuel J. Holmes, head of the zoology department of the University of California, who asks: "Why do 50 per cent of college women become old maids?"

"Why, on the other hand, do devotees of higher education seldom divorce?"

"Are the present world evils directly due to higher education?"

"Is the 'new' woman a traitor to the race?"

"Is ignorance of biology directly responsible for our racial problem, looming more sinister with each day?"

Professor Holmes answers all of these and more in the affirmative. "Fifty per cent of college women remain unmarried," said the zoology professor emphatically. "Oh, I know I am going to be doubted, because college girls are getting prettier each year, but that has no bearing on the matrimonial statistics."

Cautious Choosers. Prof. Holmes' theories have the background of figures to support him. College, he says, invites the cream of the race, children of the successful. Knowledge makes them aware of the full extent of matrimonial responsibility. They choose only after careful consideration. Meanwhile many of them engage in lucrative occupations which tend to divert the mind from things matrimonial.

A lifelong student of biology and evolutionary development, Prof. Holmes has studied the subject with a dispassionate and judicial mind. He is vitally interested in woman's status, the rise of industrialism, and the question of the effects of alcohol, because of the lights they throw when interpreted upon the progress of the race.

Marriage is a lottery, he says, among the women of higher education, and the families are becoming smaller and smaller. In many cases, higher education is responsible for the loss of a certain feminine charm, a misfortune that arouses a deep-seated instinctive recoil in the opposite sex.

Independence Not Blessing. "Present day women who sacrifice motherhood for the sake of independence upon whom the obligation of motherhood should rest with the greatest weight. I have my doubts if the growing independence of women is an unmixt blessing."

The Berkeley savant attributes race suicide largely to higher education with its attendant development of mentality and to inordinate social ambition.

"This latter danger," he said, "in the past years confined to a few, is today becoming a general malady. The feminine public is eaten with a desire for social progress, and, of course, there is no barrier to this so fatal as the large family with its responsibilities and expense."

Shark Fishing Once Good in East River
New York, Dec. 3.—The waters of the East river off Catherine Slip, in the shadow of the Brooklyn bridge, where only germs are to be found now, were productive shark-fishing grounds a century ago, according to the local historians. Nowadays a shark that dares run very far beyond Sandy Hook is a rarity. They seldom get past the outlying beaches down in the lower bay.

But in the early years of the nineteenth century it was different. There were no steamers, with their thrashing propellers, or chugging motor-boats to frighten off the wary fish, and they followed the fishing smacks up to the shores of Monhatan island. Once they got to Catherine Slip, where the biggest fish market in town was located, they were loath to leave, for there they found the choicest tidbits floating with the tide—the dead fish thrown overboard by the market scavengers. As a result, shark-fishing was good.

Marriage of Children India's Greatest Evil, Says Future High Priest

Student at Columbia Seeks Education on System of the West.



Jas. Cursetji Pavry

New York, Dec. 3.—Marriage vows at 10 years of age. Little lisping girls and bashful boys exchange words that bind them together in a state of matrimony which they cannot understand.

Ten, 11, 12, 13—these are the years of brides in India whose parents still subscribe to the old idea of child marriage.

This is one of the greatest evils existing in India today. Yet it had its origin in a desire only to protect women. The observer is led to believe from reports that such an institution must have had its beginnings in those dark days when men sought to shut away women from the world and place them in a safe if dubious position.

But one of the younger generation of old India, who holds to many ancient ideals though he is most progressive, explains the strange custom.

Jas. Cursetji Pavry, son of a high priest of the Parsees, now a student at Columbia, discusses this problem of his country and declares it one of the greatest evils that burden India today.

Student Tells of Conditions. "Women were held in great esteem by the followers of Zoroaster, the Parsees of old. These people are descended, flourished in Persia in the seventh century.

"The invasion of the Mohammedans caused a number of converts and weakening the strength of our prophet's followers, made the position of our women a dangerous one."

"Parents shielded their daughters in their homes. The liberties and position of woman immediately changed. "But parents who got tired of this responsibility found a way to shift it."

"Marrying off very young girls became another measure of safeguard. Persecution of the Parsees continued by the greater number of Mohammedans and when these first Pilgrims of Persia went into India they continued to protect their women."

"The child-marriage was a concomitant evil of the invasion of Persia and the bitter persecution that followed. "It is one of India's greatest social evils today. It should be wiped out and we should marry now as they do in your west, from a standpoint of suitability, mutual liking, and at a more mature age."

Society Burglar Is Expelled From Sing Sing Prison

Failure in Promise to Reform Results in Sending Crook To Less Popular Penitentiary.

Ossining, N. Y., Dec. 3.—Walter White, a "burglar of high society," known in crookdom as Silk Hat Harry White, has just been put out of Sing Sing prison for breaking his pledge to reform. Over his protest White was hustled off to Auburn prison.

When White was released on probation a few months ago from Sing Sing he told the state board that, although a life-long burglar, he had a conscientious scruple against robbing the dead. He said that one night he entered a dark room in a fashionable residence. As he was groping around in darkness he touched some silver he thought was resting on a bureau. He was unable to lift it, so he focused his flashlight on the silver. He was horrified to find himself confronted by a corpse. The silver was the plate on the casket. He fled in dismay.

When he finished telling how that harrowing experience persuaded him to "go straight" he was asked if he stole the casket plate.

He explained he could have taken it, but his conscience would never let him "rob the dead."

White was returned to Sing Sing recently for getting into more thievery. Like all professional criminals, White preferred Sing Sing to any other prison because life there is more thrilling and it is most convenient to receive callers from New York.

In his raids on society he wore a tall hat to assist him in his work.

Rattlesnake Killed in Trap Set to Catch Rat
Reading, Pa., Dec. 3.—Amandus Creitz of Steinsville, northwest of Kutztown, got the surprise of his life when he set a powerful steel trap to catch what he thought was a rat of unusual size and appetite, judging by the amount of food that was disappearing nightly from his cellar.

The next morning a rattlesnake with 11 rattles was found in the trap, crushed to death by the heavy spring. Since then nothing has been missed from the cellar.

Care of Babies New Course in Chicago Schools

Students Will Practice on Real Youngsters, Left By Mothers Who Have to Work.

Chicago, Dec. 3.—Girls of the Chicago High schools are to be taught how to take care of babies. They will have real, squirming, cooing youngsters to practice upon instead of learning baby culture out of dry, unanimated books.

The kiddies will be left at the school each morning by mothers who work. The course will start tomorrow.

"In carrying on the nursery work," said Miss Nona E. Goodman, head teacher, "we will continue the regular educational features. Besides instruction in bathing, dressing and feeding the babies, the girls will be taught the fundamentals of kindergarten work."

"We are not trying to make nurse maids of the girls, but we feel that knowledge in scientific care of babies will go far toward making them mothers' helpers."

"This training will enable them to give scientific care to their own little brothers and sisters and many parents will learn much from them. Our girls are all enthusiastic over the work."

The course will be started first in one school and extended to others as classes are formed. Two hundred and fifty girls already have signed up for the class.

The work will be under the direction of Dr. Mildred Young, head of the homecraft department.

"Every baby will have a crib and will be given a thorough physical examination," she said. "This course will not only help girls who prefer home work to office duties, but it will be a benefit to future generations and give the community healthier children."

Husband, 83, in Insane Fit, Scalps Wife With Chair
Freeport, Ill., Dec. 3.—Robert J. Long, 83, in a fit of insanity, arose from bed and attacked his aged wife with a chair, literally scalping her with blows. He turned on his granddaughter, Lois Young, injuring her before she escaped. His wife's condition is critical.

script, though Hindustania is the common language. "The idea that these 30 native vernaculars keep the people apart is wrong. All are able to speak this one common language."

"But caste is to keep people alienated from each other. And the Hindus have so many castes. The Parsees and the Mohammedans have none. The Brahmin caste among the Hindus holds sway over many depressed peoples and they constitute a great menace to Indian political institutions. They have no sympathy for their own people and do not regard them as equals, hence they cannot do much real good."

"Up until lately the Hindus and the Mohammedans were united, but after political troubles and the massacres at Amritsar, they have been thrown apart. "The Parsee should be organized—there are so many existing abuses of the priesthood there. I want to study system and organization in America—you people are masters of it."

Unique Application Lands \$12 a Week Job in England
London, Dec. 3.—A derby employer advertised a vacancy on his staff at \$12 a week. He received 300 applications, among which was one enclosed in an ordinary envelope which had a border marked in red ink.

Printed across the top of the envelope were the words: "As this envelope is unique and stands out from the rest, so does my application." He got the job.

Fashion Decrees No More Bare Backs or Shoulders
London, Dec. 3.—According to Lucille's London branch, which held its autumn fashion parade, there are to be no more bare backs, bare arms or bare shoulders. The expanses of neck and shoulders hitherto revealed in past seasons are to be covered by gossamer lace.

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