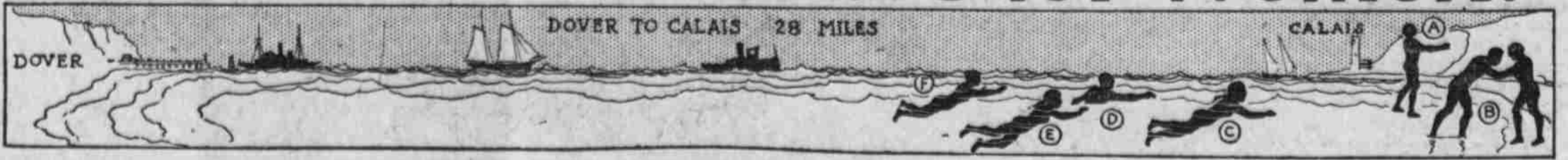


"I'll Swim to France to Win Votes for Women!"



Miss Lily Smith and Her Sisters Gwendoline and Nellie Who Are Almost as Much at Home in the Water as She Is.

Miss Lily Smith, One of England's Prettiest and Most Athletic Suffragettes, Who Will Brave the Treacherous Currents of the Channel to Prove That Woman Is Man's Physical Equal

How the Channel Has Baffled All but Two Swimmers. Only Two of the Countless Attempts to Swim the English Channel Have Succeeded. Captain Webb, (A), an American, First Accomplished the Feat in 1875 and He Was Followed 36 Years Later by William Burgess, (B), an Englishman. Annette Kellerman, (E) Gave It Up After Going 20 Miles and Rose Petanoff Also Failed. Wolfe, an English Swimmer, (D), Covered 17 Miles of the Distance and Lily Smith, Who Is Now Going to Make Another Attempt, Once Came Within Eight Miles of Reaching Calais.

"I AM going to swim the Channel in order to demonstrate that woman is the physical equal of man. I am going to put a stop forever to all this twaddle about the weaker sex. Yes, I am a firm believer in Woman Suffrage." So declares Miss Lily Smith, who is known up and down England as the peer of all lady swimmers in Great Britain, and who is frequently referred to as the "English Water Lily." You may pick up your morning paper on any one of the remaining days of this month to read a London dispatch telling of Miss Smith's success in swimming across from Dover to Calais, for she intends to try it before the first November month makes its appearance.

Miss Smith is a suffragette, yet does not advocate the throwing of hatchets at prime ministers or the smashing in of plate-glass windows in order to get the vote. Other women may pursue the militant course, even her two athletic sisters, if they wish, but by demonstrating that the sexes are physically equal, intellectual equality she takes for granted—she expects to be of better service toward winning the franchise for her sex.



Rose Pitonoff, the American Swimmer, on Her Unsuccessful Attempt to Swim the English Channel.

Misses Nellie and Gwendoline, as well as herself, have won medals again and again for feats in the water. Lily had earned the title of "Champion of all London" before she was fifteen years old by virtue of her success in many competitions. During her sixteenth year she swam for five hours side by side with Jabez Wolfe, who was at the time attempting to cross the Channel. The young girl's daring on this occasion was quite disquieting to her father, for though he knew that she was a capable swimmer he did not like the idea of seeing her sporting in such treacherous waters for such a length of time.

He and his daughter were on the tugboat that was accompanying Wolfe, and when they left the English shore no one in the party suspected that Lily intended to enter the water, even though she was wearing a bathing suit. Suddenly, when they were half way across, she announced that she would try to swim to land and dive overboard. Both she and Wolfe had to give up the struggle, however, for a strong wind came up and, blowing in exactly the opposite direction than that followed by the current, kicked up such rough water that for the most of the time the swimmers could not be seen by those on the tug.

sportsman, Sir John Astley, when in 1876 Agnes Beckwith, a girl still in her teens, swam from London Bridge in Greenwich, a distance of five miles, in one hour and seven minutes. The Baronet said at that time, "I should not have believed it possible had I not seen it with my own eyes. After this I can say that I am sure the time will come when a twenty-mile swim will be accomplished by a woman."

what had been prophesied, Miss Smith decided to do something in the following year which would go further than any prophesies made up to that time—she decided to swim the Solent from Southsea to the Isle of Wight and return, a distance of twelve miles each way.

She trained faithfully for this event all during the Spring of 1911, for the proposed feat was a difficult one, having been performed previously by only one swimmer, Horace Davenport, who accomplished it in 1884.

Leaving Southsea on the minute of 6 o'clock, August 24, she started bravely on the first leg of the journey, reaching Ryde Pier, which marked the end of it, at 10:45. She merely touched the pier, and immediately started on the return journey. When within five miles of Southsea she received a serious cut on the knee from a submerged barrel with which she came in contact. She did not give up the struggle, though the wound bled profusely, but bandaged the limb while still in the water and then resumed her task. She kept on pluckily for half an hour longer, but the injured member proved to be too great a handicap, and so, against her own wishes but acting on the advice of her trainer, Walter Brickett, she gave up the battle.

This was a remarkable performance because the Solent waters are even more dangerous and flow with greater speed than those in the Channel. It was her showing on this occasion that won her the confidence of her friends and the praise of her compatriots, and from then on she has been regarded as a fit candidate for the cross-channel swim. She was still fresh when she was forced to leave the Solent on account of her injury and this in spite of the fact that she had swam nineteen miles. That she would have finished—and in good time—had she not met with the barrel, there is not the least doubt.

During that swim it was her lot to pass very close to H. M. S. Thunderer, which was in the Solent. The officer on watch earned a little notoriety for himself by ordering a boat manned and lowered and having it row around and around his ship when she approached. He was under the impression that Miss Smith was merely swimming from shore to shore, and he was determined that she would not be permitted to "land" on the vessel. Hence, he had put out a boat to keep her off. When those who were accompanying her on a tug shouted through a megaphone and told Miss Smith's real intention, the boat was called in and every man on the Thunderer came on deck to give three cheers for the plucky English girl.

Not all of Miss Smith's triumphs were won in long-distance events, nor were they confined to competitions held in England. In 1909 she went to France, and at Rouen succeeded in capturing third place in a competition involving eleven men besides her, the one woman. In a 1,000-metre race held over a course in the Seine during that same year she led the way right from the start to the finish line, and was followed by all the other competitors in the race—eighteen of them, and all of them men.

In all, Miss Smith has won seventy-three medals for her prowess. The Channel swim, which she has tried once and which she will try again, has been attempted many times by Jabez Wolfe, who is frequently her trainer. Wolfe once got within three miles of the French shore, being forced to leave the water.

Annette Kellerman was the first woman who ever made the attempt and who was qualified to make it. Seasickness brought about Miss Kellerman's withdrawal after she had been in the water over four hours and had travelled over twenty miles. "Seasickness will be the greatest obstacle to all women who attempt to swim the Channel," she announced at that time, and she was evidently correct, for Miss Smith was troubled with mal de mer when she tried it last year, and she has never before been so troubled in any of the long swims she had made.

Will Miss Smith end man's supremacy in the water? She will not be the first woman who has attempted to do so at least. In 1901 Mrs. Isacescu, an Austrian woman, swam forty-eight miles in the waters of the Danube and did it in eight hours and ten minutes. No man has succeeded so far in equalling that record. Mrs. Isacescu became famous after that, and was looked upon as one who would, without doubt, be able to swim from Dover to Calais if she but made the attempt. Her friends and all those interested in swimming in Austria urged her again and again to try it, but she would not do so.

My Secrets of Beauty--By Mme. Lina Cavalieri--How to Restore the Lost Beauty to Your Arms

Oh, Yes; She Understood.
A teacher in one of the public schools was endeavoring to impress upon her pupils the fact that a plural subject takes a verb in the plural.
"Remember this," she said, "girls are, boys are; a girl is, a boy is. Now do you understand it?"
Every hand in the room was raised in assent.
"Well, then," continued the teacher, "who can give me a sentence with 'girls-plural, remember'?"
This time one hand was raised, and that belonged to a pretty little miss. "Please, ma'am," she said, with all the assurance of a primitive reasoning, "I see give a sentence. 'Girls, are my hat on straight!'"

SUMMER, that added 50 per cent to your stock of vitality; that brightened your eyes and melted away pounds of superfluous flesh, that gave your movements a new strength and freedom, has robbed you, you complain, of the beauty of your arms. Even the one who ordinarily sees only perfection in you has looked with disfavor on your coarsened brown surface.

The saline air, combined with the salt water, may have irritated your skin, which is naturally sensitive. In that case use no soap, but instead use a handful of oatmeal or of almond meal when bathing your arms. The sensitiveness will disappear and the skin resume a silken texture if you patiently apply this lotion at morning and at night and as often between as circumstances permit.

Half fill your hand with olive or coconut oil and rest the elbow of the other arm in it. Gently massage it round and round until the starved elbow has been well fed. Treat the other arm in the same way. Then repeat the process, resting the elbow this time in half a lemon. This will whiten them as effectually as the former process softens them. Or should they be persistently discolored, mix a teaspoonful of powdered pumice with half that quantity of lemon juice and rub the discolored spot gently with it.

Perhaps much rowing or golf playing or swimming has forced the outer bone of the wrist to come into unlovely prominence. Massage the knob gently with coconut or olive oil. As the tissues surrounding the unsightly bone are fed, they gradually fill out and surround the protruding bone, veiling if not quite hiding it.

Free from long sleeves and exposure to sun and air may have caused the hair to grow more profusely than you like on your arms.



Mme. Lina Cavalieri, Whose Arms Are Among Her Greatest Charms.