

The Bee's Home Magazine Page

Pair Skating, an Art Which Gives Great Scope for Grace and Never Grows Tiresome

From Photographs Posed Especially for The Bee By Cathleen Pope and George Kerner, Among the World's Premier Artists in Ice Skating



The skaters have finished swinging the circle

The skaters are here beginning the backward figure

The correct way to begin the "Once Back," or waltz

Booker Washington, Pioneer in Education

By WOODS HUTCHISON, M. D.

PART I.

It is not always the best and most lasting work that a great man does that attracts the most attention during his lifetime. Some of the finest accomplishments of a genius are often passed over in comparative silence; indeed, may escape recognition at their true worth by the man himself.

Everyone, of course, is familiar with the instance of the great Leonardo, surnamed da Vinci, whose deathless fame rests upon "The Last Supper" and "Mona Lisa," but to his contemporaries he was chiefly known as a military engineer and inventor and a builder of fortifications.

There is even on record one of his own letters which he wrote to offer his services to the Duke of Milan, in which, after detailing his abilities and accomplishments as an inventor of engines of war and builder of battlements of considerable length, he closes with the casual after-thought remark: "Item—I can paint pictures and carve marble as well as any other man, be he who he may."

It may well be that a like shift of the emphasis of fame, though in lesser degree, may occur in the case of another great man who has just gone from us—far too soon. Booker Washington is now chiefly known as a great leader and counselor of his people in a time of peculiar trial and transition; a Moses who built his people up out of the bondage of ignorance and incompetence; a great conciliator, who brought together the black and the white upon a plane of mutual respect and drew out what was best in both.

All this he was. But what is not so generally known, in fact, almost unrecognized save by those who have personally visited his great laboratory for race regeneration, Tuskegee, he was also one of the great educational geniuses and pioneers of all times, worthy to be mentioned in the same class with Pestalozzi, with Froebel, with Herbart and with Wirt.

Tuskegee is a kindergarten for a child race, which squares with common sense, and like all other gardens, is in the open air, and its founder, a Froebel, with the insanity omitted, Tuskegee is the same parts of Rousseau's dream come true, a Montessori system applied to grown-ups—only it works.

Like most great inventions, the educational plan of Tuskegee grew up almost naturally out of the necessities of the situation. And the situation was necessitous, not to say poverty-stricken, to the verge of desperation. The state of Alabama had decided upon an industrial school for negroes in the black belt and the legislature had appropriated the superb sum of \$2,000 per annum for its foundation, support and development.

The problem was to devise a curriculum, a course of study, which should not merely make its graduates successful and self-supporting in after life, but make them as nearly as possible support themselves and the institution as well while they were in the process of education.

Here was an opening for manual training and vocational education with a vengeance. As no site or ground of any sort had been provided by the state, the first step was to borrow \$500 from a local friend of the institute that was to be, with which to make the first payment toward the purchase of an old worn-out plantation near the outskirts of the vil-

lage which it was to make famous.

On this there was only one small frame building, variously described as a barn, and an abandoned country church, which was about the same thing in that part of the country. This was made water-tight and fitted with bunks and a cook stove by the charter class of seven or eight, under the president's direction. They were short of bedding and had neither spoons nor forks and very few plates and cups, but they were in earnest and they believed in their leader.

Their next need was some sort of building which could be used for a joint workshop and schoolroom; and a kindly neighboring farmer, hearing of this, came to Booker Washington and told him that he had, at the back of his house, a small building which had been built for a workshop and which he might have for his schoolroom if he cared to move it over.

It had a good floor and roof and plenty of windows, but it had been used for several years past as a chicken house and would need a thorough cleaning and fumigating before it would be available. This is the story as told to the writer by Dr. Washington himself, and illustrates not merely his courage and energy,

but also his keen and irrepressible sense of humor, which kept him cheerful even under the most discouraging circumstances.

After inspecting the offered building and finding that it could be readily adapted to his purpose, he set out in search of some one to give it the necessary sanitary attention.

Meeting an old colored man, who lived by doing odd jobs, he asked him if he had anything on hand for that afternoon. The old man was out of work and glad to get any chance of earning half a dollar. "All right, then, Sam," said the doctor, "I have got a job for you. There's a chicken roost over on Mr. So-and-So's place that I would like you to come and help me clean out this afternoon." The old man looked at him sharply and queerly. "When did you say you wanted me to do that?" he asked. "Oh, this afternoon, say about 3 o'clock." "Well, boss," replied the old darkey, "come I do jes' as you say; youse payin' me, but if I was you' I wouldn't clean out no chicken coop in broad daylight." The coop, however, was cleaned and moved and made a most useful workshop and classroom.

By CATHLEEN POPE, Who, with George Kerner, is one of the Star Skaters at the New York Hippodrome.

ARTICLE NO. 2.

While few lovers of sport will devote time enough to become expert in any one phase of skating, still the charm of pair skating stimulates interest and progress. Skating with another who skates as well, or almost as well, makes for rivalry and comparison.

Skating together is easier than dancing together, for two persons of unequal ability can readily learn to skate very well together, the better skater helping to teach the other and benefiting his own skating the same time.

Having followed the suggestions set forth in article one, the same strokes may be tried backward. That is, the circle edgits having been described, the skaters' hands joined, the stroke is taken swinging the skaters around in a circle.

The skater gradually crosses the direction of the skater in front and ends the stroke on the opposite side of his partner. This leaves the skaters in the position illustrated in figure one. Figure two shows the beginning of the backward figure. The skaters start facing each other and with opposite hands touching or clasped. Let the poorer skater strike out with the right foot aided by a vigorous push from the forward skater. The better skater will do

the circle on the left foot forward outside edge, while the poorer skater will do it on the right foot backward outside edge.

The weaker foot should always be used more than the stronger foot, so that both may be equally strengthened. One-legged skaters are never fully accredited experts in the sport. When reasonable security has been obtained skating backward, while the partner in skating forward, both may skate backward. This is similar to the position recommended for learning the forward outside circle together.

The most agreeable and one of the simplest figures for their skating is the "Once Back," or waltz. Both partners skate this figure on the same foot simultaneously. The skaters stand as illustrated in figure three. A strong outside edge circle is started by each skater on the right foot.

When one-half the circle has been skated a three is made and immediately an outside edge backward stroke is started on the other foot. Both partners are now going backward on the left outside edges.

When two-thirds of the circle has been skated a three on the left foot is made and the pair strike out on the right outside edges to the spot where the figure was begun.

It must be remembered that skating is more a matter of balance and accuracy than it is a matter of strength.

(The third and last article in this series will appear on this page soon.)

Little Stories of Big Men

By H. H. STANSBURY. WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—Senator Atlee Pomerene tells a story about William J. Bryan's recent campaign for the "dry" in Ohio and how Mr. Bryan was suspected of violating neutrality by one of his Teutonic admirers. Mr. Bryan observed that he was glad so many Germans were present, and remarked that the German emperor was a "teetotaler." Immediately there was a disturbance in

the audience. Several men were struggling with an excited German-American who appeared to be trying to reach Mr. Bryan or expostulate with him. The disturber was thrown out of the hall and an explanation was demanded by the police. "He called the Kaiser a hard name," was the disgusted reply. "I did not think Mr. Bryan would be so personal."

Several well-known army critics have recently given public utterance to their differences of opinion with Secretary Garrison over the proposed increases in the army. When the newspaper men who "cover" the office of the secretary of war saw Mr. Garrison the other day they asked for a reply to the criticisms.

The amiable secretary of war was cornered, but, as usual, a ready wit saved the situation for him. He said:

"I once heard a man say after listening to a lecture by Robert Ingersoll that nearly everybody knew what Ingersoll thought about the Almighty, but none knew what the Almighty thought about Ingersoll."

The secretary then added, solemnly: "I am inclined to say it will be almost as difficult to get me to tell what I think of my critics in the matter of preparedness for the army."

In-Shoots

Every man does not laugh the same way at the same joke.

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