

What the Women Are Doing

Adamless Eden in Wyoming.

TWENTY Chicago women, young, self-reliant, and wary of "man's domination," have banded together for the purpose of founding in Wyoming a model city owned by women, managed by women, into which men must not enter without cleaning his shoes on the front door mat and pleading "by your leave, madam."

According to the Chicago Inter Ocean, Mrs. T. Vernetta, president of the Arts and Crafts Institute, is to be the "Mother Eve" of the proposed "Adamless Eden." An agent is already in Wyoming looking for a site for the girls' colony, and the girls themselves are getting ready to purchase plows, carpenter's tools, lumber, and everything else needed in the building of a city. And a few miles from where the manless colony will be founded twenty or more male students of the institute will be working and slaving on an "Eveless" town—that is, it is to be Eveless at the start, but the young men have no such stern edict against the other sex as characterize the plans of the girl students.

"Girls can be just as independent as men," said Mrs. Morse, "they can build a town just as well as men and they can do it better if the men are not around. They can farm as well, they can build houses as well, in fact they can do anything as well, or even better. It is to prove this that the girls are going out west to start their town. Men will not be allowed."

Already several meetings have been held by the girls interested in the plan. Mrs. Morse is to go along as general adviser of the girls and is to be the first "mayor" of the new town. Then with things once under way she will return to Chicago and get new recruits for the colony.

The plan for the manless town came recently when several young men students of the Art-Crafts decided to go west and start a colony. Several of the girls suggested that they would like to join the colony.

"We can get along better without women for a while," was the ungalant response. And then the scheme to found the opposition colony arose.

"Why shouldn't it be a success?" said Mrs. Morse. "It is going to be a business proposition purely. Sentiment will have no part. Our girls have been taught the useful arts. We have girls who can make good farmers, others who can build houses, others who can weave—in fact, do everything necessary to start a colony. Either Wyoming or Idaho will be chosen in the heart of the irrigation district. My son is now looking over the ground, and he will select sites for the girls and for the boys, but they are to be far distant."

Man—mere man—will enter upon the scene of the new female Utopia merely to break the ground. Then, having cleared space sufficient for the young women to erect their houses on and to lay out their gardens, man will be himself far away from the scene and allow the female activity to begin.

"Will the girls wear bloomers when they work, will they climb ladders, will they hold elections, and above all, will they ever get married?" were among the questions propounded to "Mother Eve" Morse. "I don't know," she said. "All those things are more details. Will they be married? Maybe—later—much later. The west is a fertile country. The young women can raise produce; they can have a sheep ranch just the same as the men; they can get their provisions from other towns for a time until they are well established. But one thing has been agreed upon—there will be helping hands from man until the colony is an established fact—then who knows what will happen."

Stay Off the Stage, Girls.

The average girl who goes on the stage, says a writer in the Broadway Magazine, can figure on working something like four years before she gets anywhere. During that time her salary probably will never exceed \$9 a week, when she is working. Some years she may get on only two weeks work; in a full season she may get thirty-five weeks' work out of a year.

Fifty dollars a week sounds like a great deal of money; but out of it comes the money for dresses, hats, shoes—and these

bill, in spite of one's cleverness, are never small. Out of it also come living expenses, as high in New York as on the road, and possibly higher. At best there is only a choice between medium and second class hotels for the \$6 a week.

One woman I know came out of a mid-western stock company, battered at the gates, got into a small part, played small parts for three seasons, started last season and is now a seamstress in Brooklyn. A girl who was in the glory of it—"played with Mansfield," and also with Sothorn, and also with Hackett, worried along through moderate salaries and the bullying of these eminent heroes and at last gave it all up as a bad job. The shade of Theophrastus indulgently. She is now a "spotter" on a street railway.

Another worked through a stock company to a good place with Nat Goodwin, thence to leading lady of a good "road show"—at no time did she get more than \$5 a week—and she is now writing light-headed interviews for a daily newspaper. Two others I know who are on newspapers; a hundred others scattered here, there, and nowhere in a hundred different businesses save "the" business, as the actor's profession is always called. They will never go back—that is, they say they never will. The stage robbed them of their young years, their best years. It taught them a great deal, it is true, but it robbed them and robbed them unmercifully. A sensible girl who reads this will find a moral; don't go on the stage. If you merely wish to sing and dance, it does not matter much one way or the other whether you get behind the footlights or not.

But if you think you have a "personality" if you think you are (1) ambitious, (2) talented, or (3) magnetic, then marry the boy who comes around to the front parlor four times a week and all day Sunday, and learn how to cook. It is better to look back at forty and say, "I know I would have made an excellent actress," than to look back at forty upon a career after-admiration which has turned out to be a career—after-wormwood.

Woman's Work in Heavy Metals.

One of the few women in New York City doing heavy metal work is Miss Norton, whose specialty is wrought iron and copper. "At present my work is done elsewhere," she said, "but at last I think I have found here the only place in the city where there is no objection to heavy pounding. There is no one above me and below me in a business which offers no obstacles. So I shall soon set up my forge in the studio and do my work here. My work in metals will chiefly be carrying out for architects special designs in fenders, fire irons, brackets and other metal pieces for particular schemes or styles of decoration." This fender, which you see here is for Long Island. Its chief value is in its form, for it has no decoration.

"The fender, over six feet long, is curved back at each end and finished in a re-entering curve, which is curled scroll-like at the extreme ends. The blow of the hammer, for it was hammered out of a single sheet of copper, gave the surface its uneven finish, and the upper edge is rolled over to form a resting place for the feet."

"A piece that I find useful and desirable is the long-armed, two-teethed prong intended for manipulating the heavy logs of a fireplace. This is done by prying under the log or by placing a prong on each side and moving it, as tongs cannot do so well. The handle, of course, would be designed or ornamented according to the style of the room."

Taking down from the wall another long-handled iron fork, which looked like a formidable weapon, Miss Norton explained that it was intended for toasting either bread or marshmallows without endangering the complexion of the toaster. The long handle afforded opportunity for delicate tracery. Another novelty was the headstall, intended for a favorite horse. This was ornamented with silver disks flanking a central ornament, Egyptian in style and enclosing a central stone of amethyst quartz.

"Such pieces do not exclude work in silver or in jewelry," said Miss Norton, exhibiting some pieces of a tea equipage in hammered silver, left with a dull finish, and other jugs and porringers.

How the Money Goes.

Mrs. Belle de Rivera, president of the Equal Suffrage League of New York, said at a recent dinner: "We'd have had the suffrage, we women, long ago, were it not that where women are concerned, we incline to be a little unfair, a little churlish. Their treatment of women is on a par with old Hiram Doollittle's treatment of his wife. He made her keep a cash account and he would go over it every night, growling and grumbling like this: 'Look here, Hiram—mustard, sixteen cents; 80 cents; three teeth extracted, \$2. There's \$210 in one day, spent for your own private pleasure. Do you think I am made of money?'"

State Farm for Women.

New York state is doing wisely in establishing a state farm for women serving out sentences in penitentiaries and confined in almshouses. The excellent effect on health and morals induced in caring for fowls, working in the field and garden for both men and women prisoners has been noted again and again. In Europe employing convicts in agriculture has long been recognized as a remedial agent. In this country also it has been used with good effect. In New York City are 800 women who have been arrested from twenty to 200 times within the last five and twenty years. In Manhattan 1,483 sentences were pronounced on 103 women under different aliases within one year. It is apparent that the usual methods do not improve these women. In workhouses, out of 600 women, thirty-six were found insane in 1906, and in 1907 over 200 exhibited the lowest forms of alcoholism. Of 2,284 women repeaters, 2,263 were between the ages of 20 to 50. Like Pip's convict, their story is "In jail and out of jail" the year round.

Besides, the worst fact of all, that these habitual offenders constantly go from bad to worse, the expense is very great. The New York Times reckons the cost of each arrangement to be \$12. Five hundred and eighty-six street women were put in prison 4,780 times in a single year at a cost of over \$80,000 and of 14,379 hours of police service. The Auburn state prison has its women prisoners at work in gardens. Why have not other institutions followed suit before this? If good in one institution it would be good in all, and it is a good thing that attention has been given to the idea at last. James L. Whitley wishes the state farm established under a board made up of the superintendent of prisoners, president and vice president of state communities of prisons and two women, one a member of the Women's Prison association of the city of New York, and estimates that expenditures of all sorts in establishing a suitable farm and its maintenance for one year would cost \$100,000.

Trustee of Printers' Home.

The fight for the position of trustee is furnishing the warmest contest in the approaching election in the Typographical union. Miss Wilson is leading the field by what appears to be a comfortable margin, having secured the nomination of 23 unions. While Miss Wilson is highly qualified in every way to fill this position and

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It nourishes, invigorates and vivifies the entire hair structure, producing a youthful, beautiful, healthy growth. Positively cures hair falling, dandruff, itching scalp, and all scalp diseases and restores any hereditary tendency to baldness or grayness. Contains no artificial coloring and does not change the natural color of hair. Makes the hair fragrant, soft, silky, glossy, beautiful, and healthy.

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Large open-face blush meandered over his countenance, but the exchange was made. Then he grabbed his hat and started to leave the room.

"Why, where are you going?" she asked, in surprise.

"To the—to the florist for more roses," he exclaimed.

Leaves from Fashion's Notebook.

Stripes are very much to the fore this season, and their clever arrangement forms one of the most interesting features of present fashions.

It is surprising what effects can be produced with striped materials in the hands of a clever designer. Their very simplicity is baffling, yet ingenuity shows in every line, for it is no easy matter to manipulate stripes satisfactorily. The ensemble is apt to be either too severe or too "buxed."

The National Association of Audubon Societies in New York is congratulating itself that the feathers on hats this year are for the most part made of the feathers of barnyard fowls. Turkey feathers play quite an important part in the decoration for the hats, and this is something to be thankful for.

It is not the trimming, but the hat trim, that really counts in the becomingness, and the wise woman who is of the age when wrinkles are due should never wear a pink or blue brim, but with a dark brim may load the hat with these light colors if she chooses. The flower trimmings this year make it possible to have a gay hat, and yet one that will be suited to one's own style.

One-piece dresses are bound to come more and more into favor, as they are even better suited to summer materials, and the separate waist savors too much of the shirtwaist, of which at last we have had enough. As fashion develops now, there is no difference between the one and two-piece costumes, but the girlish, unless one reckons with the romantique, and it is a simple matter to convert this year's two-piece dress into this year's "latest" by the aid of a few rows of insertion, or whatever device the tailoring employed may happen to be.

Some of the round toques are really stunning, but to be so they must suit the wearer, and to this end a careful arrangement of the coiffure is necessary. Toggles with the wide hand brims trimmed with a knot of velvet or ribbon at the side and a long aigrette are pretty, but trying. Lingerie hats are going to be worn, but only with frocks of the same order, and instead of the flapping sort, the mill or embroidery, or whatever the material of which it is to be made, must be so arranged as to show the careful adjustment of any mode hat. These are the hats of today. Tomorrow they may be out of fashion.

Chat About Women.

Laura Biggar, formerly an actress, who inherited almost \$1,000,000 from Henry M. Bennett, a theatrical manager, is now a full-fledged editor. Some time ago Miss Biggar went to Albuquerque, N. M., where she purchased the Daily Sun. She is now personally conducting the paper under the name of H. M. Bennett.

Miss Cora Croker, a deaf, dumb and blind girl, just 21, has surprised her teachers in the workshops of the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind, in Cambridge, by the quickness with which she has mastered the intricate machinery of her loom and the beauty and delicacy of her work.

Miss Helen Gould lately gave a reception to young men and women from Asiatic countries now studying in this country. The guests included Japanese, East Indians, Syrians, Armenians and other Orientals. Besides them, there were various young Armenian men and women now studying in New York.

Miss Ruth Durant Evans of South Carolina will receive her degree from the Chattanooga University of Law early in June and a few days later her license to practice at the Chattanooga bar. She is reported to stand at the head of a class of 150, although the only girl in the class. She comes from a family that has produced several distinguished lawyers and her power of oratory is said to be remarkable. It is probable that she will devote herself to office work and make a specialty of advising women.

Mrs. Maxwell-Scott, great granddaughter of Sir Walter Scott, is the present owner of Abbotsford. She bears a considerable resemblance to Sir Walter. The drooping eyebrows look out from beneath a wide, full brow so like that of Chantrey's head of the novelist that it might have served as a model. Mrs. Maxwell-Scott has edited the last and best edition of Sir Walter's diary and is the author of "Incidents in Scottish History." "The Making of Abbotsford" and several other popular books. Mrs. Maxwell-Scott's oldest son served with gallantry throughout the Boer war, winning the distinguished service order as captain of the Cameron Highlanders.

Miss Blanche R. McHale of St. Louis has been appointed to succeed her brother as assistant city engineer. She is said to be the first woman in the country to hold such an office. Her appointment was made by Mayor Wilson in compliance with the request of her brother, who just before his death expressed the wish that his sister might be allowed to fill out his unexpired term of three years. Miss McHale is, besides, organizer in a church.

Annie Murphy, aged 11, is being congratulated in Boston for her bravery in rescuing a 3-year-old neighbor from kidnappers. Three men were carrying the child off, and Annie, attracted by her cries, ran up and demanded of the men what they were doing with him. The men told her that he had run away and they were taking him back to his mother, who lived in the next street. Knowing that the child did not live in the next street, Annie very promptly attacked them, making so strenuous a fight and yelling so lustily for help that the kidnappers dropped the boy and fled. When asked by the police where she learned to use her fists so effectively Annie explained that she had been fighting boys all her life for telling her that being a girl she was neither as strong nor as brave as a boy. Now her chief satisfaction in saving the child is that there were numerous big boys in the street, none of whom dared to come up and help her fight the men.

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