

WORK OF THE CLUB WOMEN

Interest in Organized Play and Playgrounds Growing.

CONVENTION IS CALLED FOR CHICAGO

International Association of American Women's General Demonstration Held Four Days in June at Windy City.

Interest in organized play and playgrounds is promised a decided awakening in the visit of Miss Amelia Hofer of New York, who will speak in Omaha next Monday afternoon, April 8, at Crighton institute.

The Playground Association of America, of which Theodore Roosevelt is honorary president, is now making arrangements for its great demonstration of the value of playgrounds and play to municipalities.

The first of these, a convention in Chicago, June 10-12, to which President Roosevelt has agreed every mayor in the United States to send an official representative, will consist of practical demonstrations of playgrounds by 1,000 school children of all ages.

The second enterprise of the association is a great play exhibit at the Jamestown exposition which will be installed and kept in daily operation if the necessary money can be obtained.

The general object of the association is to encourage municipalities and voluntary societies throughout the United States to maintain as part of a well organized system of education in physical training and character building, playgrounds conducted by persons qualified especially for this service.

The plan of the library extension committee will soon be ready for publication. In the meantime I desire to answer briefly some of the many inquiries which have been sent to the chairman.

It is the plan of the library extension committee to issue a series of bulletins keeping its members fully informed of the progress of the movement. It will also be prepared to furnish lists of men and women who are ready to become physical training and play leaders.

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the most influential citizens; appeal to the business men; appeal to the school teachers; and the parents as allies; urge the city fathers to provide one or more rooms in the city building as a temporary home for the books. A beautiful building in a square of civic pride and always to be desired, but if not fitted with good books, largely patronized by citizens and loved by the children it will not be a library.

As soon as the members of a community realize that a library is a necessary factor, that it is a necessary adjunct to the public schools, a boon for workingmen, a source of pleasure for children and books, containing new methods and suggestions for their special line of work, that it is a necessary factor in the overcoming ignorance, influencing character and contributing to the good citizenship of the community, the battle is won.

This may seem a difficult problem, but club women have been doing this for years so earnestly that they are now recognized as one of the most vital forces in library organization in the country. It is live in the state whose library laws are un satisfactory, there is more work to be done—that of convincing the public that the state should proper library legislation. This has been accomplished by the effort on the part of State Federations.

Child Labor Conference. The invitation contained in the following resolution has been accepted by the executive committee of the General Federation and the names of the appointees are appended:

Resolution on Child Labor adopted at the annual meeting of the National Civic Federation, held at Boston, Massachusetts, June 10-12, 1906, to which President Roosevelt has agreed every mayor in the United States to send an official representative, will consist of practical demonstrations of playgrounds by 1,000 school children of all ages.

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LETTERS FROM BEE READERS

Dog Muzzlephobia Breaks Out in Omaha Worse Than Ever.

DR. SOMERS SAYS RABIES DOES EXIST HERE

Friends of the Canine Race Rebel at Thought of Having to Put Muzzles on Their Pet Companions.

Contributions on timely topics are invited from readers of The Bee. Communications should be written legibly on one side of the paper and accompanied by the name and address of the writer. The name will not be published unless the writer so wishes. Unusual communications will not be returned. Letters are not to be published unless they are of a nature to be of interest to the community. Publication of views of correspondents must not be taken to commit The Bee or its endorsement.

Rabies. OMAHA, March 26.—To the Editor of The Bee: Ordinarily negative statements are not worthy of attention, but occasionally they are so misleading that contradictory statements may be excusable. Dr. Miller states, and repeats in a recent communication, that there has been no case of rabies in dog, man or woman in Omaha in fifty years. I do not wish to discuss Dr. Miller's letter in detail, but I would like to say that I reported to The Bee a few weeks since an undoubted case of rabies occurring in a watchman at the smelting company about two months after being bitten by a dog, the man dying in the Clarkson hospital after three days' illness.

I also saw an undoubted case of rabies, a patient of Dr. Lord's, sixteen or eighteen years ago, the man dying after a brief illness. I am satisfied that there is a mild epidemic of rabies in Omaha at the present time, and I trust those in authority will deal with it wisely as well as humanely. It might be well to suggest that killing dogs suspected of rabies is not good management; rather the dog should be secured safely until the disease has an opportunity to develop itself or until sufficient time has elapsed to demonstrate that the dog is not suffering from this disease.

I would like to ask Dr. Miller, is a man's life worth more than a dog's? Perhaps I had better ask the widow and children of the man who died in Clarkson hospital so recently. There has been an epidemic of rabies in western Massachusetts extending over a period of more than a year, and many deaths have been reported during that time. Scientific men have also had an opportunity to carefully study this disease. Our veterinary surgeons could give us valuable information on the subject of rabies as it exists in the lower animals.

Very respectfully, ANDRUS B. SOMERS.

Confuse the Dogs. OMAHA, March 26.—To the Editor of The Bee: I have just read the article of Dr. George L. Miller, president of the Nebraska Humane society. I would like to ask Dr. Miller, is a man's life worth more than a dog's? Perhaps I had better ask the widow and children of the man who died in Clarkson hospital so recently. There has been an epidemic of rabies in western Massachusetts extending over a period of more than a year, and many deaths have been reported during that time. Scientific men have also had an opportunity to carefully study this disease. Our veterinary surgeons could give us valuable information on the subject of rabies as it exists in the lower animals.

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should be killed, or muzzled, but most dogs do not seem to realize that they will not retaliate when abused, although perhaps suffering from some sore or pain the tormentor knows nothing of at the time. There are some men and boys who are as cruel as their savage ancestors, who will tie a tin can to a dog's tail and enjoy what follows. Mothers of children are the possessors of a great number of harmless dogs, they must have a pup or a litter to amuse Tommy or Johnny, and after awhile will put them adrift in some other part of the city and get younger ones to take their place.

Nature's laws which care nothing for a "weasel deal," allow dogs to multiply far beyond their welfare. There is supposed to be over 1,000,000 dogs, young and old, destroyed in the United States yearly. The humane bill in San Francisco 10,000 and Chicago about 20,000 a year.

Muzzle our dogs and let these vicious men and boys I mentioned continue to annoy them and they will spit the virus of rabies in our faces. LUKE RUSSELL, The Friend of the Friendless.

Fears for the Dog. OMAHA, March 26.—To the Editor of The Bee: I have just come to Omaha to reside, or to make it my future home and am just about settled, but I suppose will have to leave the city, which I certainly would like to do, for I have a very dear little dog, a Fox terrier, that wouldn't hurt a flea. But he will bark to tell me when anybody comes in the house. He is a good natured dog and will always tell me when anyone comes in that's strange, and I think it wicked to put a muzzle on him and I never will. I would rather leave the city than be so inhuman. It's cruel—the downright barbaric and enough to make any good dog suspect that he wouldn't think of torturing it to death with a muzzle. I have a tag or license for my dog and that is all right. But I shall never put a muzzle on him for it's wrong. I sincerely hope there will be some kind people who will try to prevent the muzzle.

M. R. CROCKETT, 213 Douglas street.

Gloves for Cats. OMAHA, March 26.—To the Editor of The Bee: So many people are criticizing Mayor Dahlman on his dog muzzle order I feel some one should come to the rescue. I think where Mayor Dahlman is wrong is that he did not go far enough, as he should have ordered that all workers shall wear gloves so they cannot scratch. Cats sometimes have fits (they really do) and should they happen to scratch people we might have an epidemic of fits which certainly would be a serious matter.

Therefore I suggest to His Honor, Mayor Dahlman, that the order include gloving the cats, and save the people from any possible harm. Yours for protection, DOCTOR FITZROBIES.

Sanctify Seats of Kindness. OMAHA, March 26.—To the Editor of The Bee: Will you kindly allow me a little of your valuable space to make a suggestion in regard to the Easter time.

We have in our midst many who are "made to crack the door," what cause, and as the holy communion will be partaken of by many thousands in our land, and the pastor or priest will utter the words, "This do in remembrance of Me," as the emblems are taken. Would it not be well to remember that the dog has a muzzle on? I think that he would, if he owned the place. Now, would not Dr. Miller feel a little of the work of the dog if he had a muzzle on? I think that he would. I think that he would forget his humane feeling for that dog and wish just for an instant that the mayor had ordered the muzzles on sooner.

I do not approve of the muzzling of dogs any certain time of the year, whether it be in dog days or in the cold weather, but I do believe that there ought to be some steps taken by our city council to prevent dogs running at large, and thereby endangering people and children of being bitten. We say taxes on horses and cattle, but we are not allowed to let them run at large on the streets.

There are dogs in this city that run at large, biting at and driving people about in fear, that ought to be muzzled or killed. But when a complaint is made, there can be nothing done till the dog bites some one, because the tax is paid.

I believe there ought to be an ordinance passed that would require the owner of a dog to keep it on his own premises, and when the dog is allowed to go off of the owner's property he should be muzzled or chained, this at any and all times of the year.

I know of dogs in this city that run at large and go into neighboring yards and onto porches, and the people do not dare go out of their own houses for fear of being bitten.

I am a friend of the dog and so am I of the horse, but I don't want my neighbor's dog to be on my porch or his horse to run on my lawn. I am willing that every citizen of Omaha should have a dog, but I don't want to take chances of being bitten by a dog any more than I would want to take the chances of being run down by a horse.

In accordance with Mrs. Josephine Redding's article, there may be no rabies, but there is danger of the lower animals. The bite will take out the poison, but who wants to take chances on having to take a Turkish bath every time they go down town?

The people are up against it on the dog question. We are not allowed to kill a dog, even if he chases us off of our own property. If we do, and the tax is paid on him, we will have to pay for the dog, and be arrested for shooting inside the city limits.

I am with the mayor in muzzling the dog. Muzzle all dogs running at large, and if the owner don't want his own muzzled, let him keep him on his own premises, and any dog found off his owner's property without a muzzle should be taken to the pound and his owner fined.

CITIZEN.

Bullet Proof Muzzles. OMAHA, March 26.—To the Editor of The Bee: When the proclamation for the shooting of unmuzzled dogs takes effect and before the bullets whistle up our thoroughfares an edict should be issued to barricade all windows and that no one be allowed upon the streets unless properly protected with bullet proof armor. A few months ago the writer, while on one of our streets, had the pleasure of hearing the song of several bullets as they passed him, from the revolver of a party who managed to kill an innocent looking bull pup at five paces after shooting five times. The writer is not familiar with the skill of the police with firearms, but from reports read as different times it is somewhat skeptical as to their accuracy. After a few people are killed and others injured by stray bullets possibly will learn that it is better to have one mad dog amongst us every ten years than daily shooting on our streets. A READER.

A Dog's Life. OMAHA, March 26.—To the Editor of The Bee: The above sentence, symbolical of cruelty suffered by the dog in the past, is to be added to Omaha's muzzling ordinance.

Dogs require their freedom for the following reasons: They need space grass for medicine; they need to vomit once in awhile; they need to chase the cats; they need to go out to Cot-Ofe lake to get a drink of water, as many owners are thoughtless in the way of clean water, and the city has no water in the troughs except for a few months and none at present. There are, a few vicious dogs which

should be killed, or muzzled, but most dogs do not seem to realize that they will not retaliate when abused, although perhaps suffering from some sore or pain the tormentor knows nothing of at the time. There are some men and boys who are as cruel as their savage ancestors, who will tie a tin can to a dog's tail and enjoy what follows. Mothers of children are the possessors of a great number of harmless dogs, they must have a pup or a litter to amuse Tommy or Johnny, and after awhile will put them adrift in some other part of the city and get younger ones to take their place.

Nature's laws which care nothing for a "weasel deal," allow dogs to multiply far beyond their welfare. There is supposed to be over 1,000,000 dogs, young and old, destroyed in the United States yearly. The humane bill in San Francisco 10,000 and Chicago about 20,000 a year.

Muzzle our dogs and let these vicious men and boys I mentioned continue to annoy them and they will spit the virus of rabies in our faces. LUKE RUSSELL,