

# Activities and Views of Progressive Women in Various Walks of Life

## Women Who Are Explorers.

HAT at least seven out of every ten women have the ability to become explorers, and that practically all women have a latent love of the wilderness stored away somewhere in their consciousness. It is the rather startling theory of Dr. Charles H. Shaw, the Philadelphia biologist, who has just returned from an exploring expedition into the Selkirk mountains of Canada.

Dr. Shaw went into the mountains at the head of a large party, which included four women, and he asserts that practically every one of them did a man's work and withstood the hardships splendidly. And they were totally untrained women, too, so far as woods life goes; notably one of them, and she distinguished herself by spending a whole night trying to kill a bear. This is not the only occasion on which Dr. Shaw has observed how well women withstand woods life, for he has conducted many parties and says he has found the members of the so-called weaker sex equally as intrepid as the men.

"It is my experience," said the doctor in an interview in the Philadelphia Inquirer, "that the average woman can tramp as far in the course of a day as a man. She cannot, of course, carry as heavy a pack, but she can carry a light one, and when she gets into camp, no matter what the weather conditions may be, she is apt to be in far better spirits than the men."

"To cite a concrete illustration of a woman's pluck and endurance," he continued, "Miss Margaret M. Hays, of the University of Michigan, stayed out of camp all of one night last summer simply to get a shot at a bear. She tramped all day, and just at nightfall, when she was about seven miles from camp, she came upon a bear. The animal disappeared, but she had an idea that he was not going to get away, so she remained on the spot. Those of us in camp were well nigh crazy with anxiety throughout the night, and in the morning prepared to search for her. But before we started she came wearily into camp and told us the story of the bear."

"Now, the chances are that a man would have had better judgment with regard to the bear's habits, but no man could have been pluckier than she."

The women of the party included Miss Caroline Roemer of Newark, N. J., who is connected with the New York Botanical gardens and is also on the staff of the high school in Newark; Mrs. Bayard Fuller of New York City, wife of Dr. Bayard Fuller; Miss Mary Jobe, a member of the staff of the Girls' Normal college of New York City, and Miss Emma Shippe, a teacher in the Sunbury, Pa., high school.

## End of Mere Man.

The movement for the abolition of Mere Man, says the New York Sun, has achieved such results that in certain parts of the country a reaction has set in. In Chicago, the capital of women's clubdom, one or two societies have undertaken to preserve a few men by adequate provision of membership. Self-preservation dictates that such of the unhappy creatures as have the strength left to avail themselves of this permission should act immediately. The opportunity cannot last. The weakness that dictated a respite for Mere Man will

not be of long duration. Woman knows her duty. The cause of Mere Man's decline and fall is now disclosed. Mrs. F. N. Cronise has told the members of the Rainy Day club that "the world is suffering for fathers." Why? Mrs. Cronise answers in a question: "We have mothers' clubs and mothers' magazines, but why not have also fathers' clubs and fathers' magazines, personally conducted, if necessary, by bachelors, just as the mothers' clubs and magazines are conducted by unmarried women?"

Mrs. Cronise remembers a happy time when "the good old-fashioned father" really formed part of the family. Today he is nothing but a "source of supplies." The changed conditions result from the lack of fathers' clubs and fathers' magazines, and they "determine man to be unfit for the position of head of the house."

Optimists may believe that if the fathers hustle around and establish clubs and found publications they may win back little by little some of the ground they have lost, and at length re-establish themselves in the respect and confidence of the dominant sex. The candid observer will cherish no false hopes of this kind. He sees too well the impossibility that Mere Man will ever overtake Superior Woman. Her lead is too great to be overcome, even if he were equipped by nature for the struggle. Those fortunate who have been denied the Chicago Women's club are not least with the idea that they may develop into useful members of society. They are protected much as the surviving buffaloes are guarded, merely as curiosities agreeable to study and as reminders of a state of barbarism through which the race has passed in its progress to the higher civilization it now enjoys. Not even fathers' clubs can save Mere Man. The mothers' clubs have cut him off, and his end is in sight.

## A Poultry Queen.

Five years ago Mrs. O. H. Burbridge secured a setting of Orpington eggs and raised a brood of chickens. Today, according to Spare Moments, she is called the Poultry Queen of California.

She has taken more ribbons and cups than anyone in the Golden State, but the bulk of her money is made by fattening capons for the big hotels.

Mrs. Burbridge makes at least \$5,000 in a season of four months by selling capons. Her aim has been to demonstrate that poultry raising is woman's field.

Mrs. Burbridge says that the pleasant part of the whole business is the opportunity to help women who come to her for advice and assistance, and she points with pride to one old woman whom she started two years ago with a setting of eggs and who used a piano box for a hen house, but who now clears nearly \$100 a month from her flock.

## Lives of Cuban Women.

To the independent American woman the life of her Cuban sister is simply incomprehensible. It is dull, uninteresting—in fact, in many instances aggravating. From childhood to old age, writes Mrs. C. E. Miller in Leslie's Weekly, she rarely does as she likes, but is a slave to antiquated customs. As a child, a servant accompanies her to school and calls for her in the evening, and her playmates are few. When the marriageable age is reached, her courting is done in the

presence of others, for the young man who calls on the Cuban senorita really visits the entire family, as at least one of them always remains in the room, which is brilliantly lighted, and its occupants are in full view of anybody passing along the street. Even if the girl talks with her lover through the grilles window some member of the family is always nearby. If he takes her to a place of amusement she is always properly chaperoned. After they are engaged the vigilance of the parents is increased, and the young couple are never for one moment left to themselves. A young man may be fond of a girl, yet in no position to marry, but after he has spoken to her father, which he must do early in the courtship, he is expected to visit her home every night and enjoy her society along with the rest of the family. If they should go to a dance, with the family, of course, the girl dances every set with her escort.

To the American woman this style of courtship seems particularly exasperating, for nowhere are there more romantically spots than around Havana. In fact, the romance of lovers wandering about the island suggests the romance of lovers wandering about free to enjoy each other's company, unconscious of the existence of the rest of the world. Yet these such pleasure is denied them. The Cuban girl of the latter class is usually pretty. The beauty of her clear, olive skin is heightened by sparkling black eyes and very white teeth, while her head is crowned by a wealth of coal-black hair. Her whole makeup suggests happiness, but from an American point of view she never really attains it. I am told that occasionally she is brave enough to break down customs.

Finally the courted-in-the-presence-of-the-family girl marries, and unless the young husband is wealthy, even the joy of a wedding trip is denied her. She at once settles down to a life of inactivity, and as the result grows fat, and inside of five years has lost every vestige of her girlhood beauty. She is usually the mother of a large family, and he it said to her credit she makes a devoted mother. She is the picture of domesticity and rarely leaves her home. Domesticity does not always bring happiness, and unhappy marriages are not uncommon. Divorces are unknown, and when separations occur the unfortunate couple simply live apart and neither can remarry. This seems to be the average man, says a writer in the St. Louis Republic. Many men can get along with four or five hours' sleep, arise and are perfectly refreshed. Not so with the average woman. She needs, at the very least, seven hours of good, uninterrupted sleep, and if she is a nervous, high-strung woman she needs at least ten. Just as soon as you begin to steal the hours that you should be sleeping you will age with about twice the rapidity that you would were you giving the allotted time to rest that your physical being craves. Sleep reduces fever, it relieves pain, it helps nutrition, it courts beauty—the loss of it leaves you a wreck that nothing can repair.

Should you be a restless sleeper, should you sleep to you only at fits and starts, try simple remedies and do not plunge in narcotics and stimulants—at least not until the others have failed. A famous English physician who is a specialist in the diseases of women and children, is quoted as saying: "I can cure the worst case of insomnia in this manner: When the patient has retired

give her a heaping bowl of boiled bread and milk, with just a dash of salt to season it. This will draw the blood from the head to the stomach, it will quiet the nerves and put the entire body in a healthy glow, and in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred the patient falls into a healthy, restful sleep." Another tasty dose to take which will induce sleep is a cold orange just before retiring. There are certain seductive as well as stimulating qualities in an orange and it is probably one of the most efficacious fruits that can be taken for this purpose.

Women the world over have a beautiful habit of leading inactive lives. They persuade themselves that they get plenty of exercise while doing housework and then when they go to bed at night they cannot sleep. Just for a change try a little exercise out of doors after the afternoon sun has gone down and the air is cool. Fill your lungs with all the fresh air they will hold, taking deep-breathing exercises as you walk along, then go home and see if you do not sleep better than you did the night before when you had not taken any fresh air into your starved lungs.

## Tank of Trunk Packing.

Here is what one woman can get in a trunk thirty inches high, twenty-two inches wide and forty-two inches long: Seventeen dresses, fifteen skirts, ten pairs of boots, six bathing suits, two coats, ten lace collars, three sets of underwear, corset waists, stockings and shirts, one waist, two shawls, two extra table cloths, two lots of napkins and doilies, five bedspreads, four blankets, a bunch of towels, eight bed-sheets, ten pillow cases, three pairs of trousers (one white duck), men's underwear, wear, collars, shirts and ties, vest and socks, three sweaters, four men's "nighties," two corsets, two pairs eyeglasses, one pair opera glasses, one dozen plated knives and forks, eight steel knives and forks, twelve dessert spoons, twelve teaspoons, two wool rugs, a mirror and toilet articles.

The woman who got all these articles in the trunk is Mrs. Harriet Atkinson of 413 Mecon street, Brooklyn. She swore she did in the supreme court of Jersey City in her suit against the New York Transfer company to recover \$700 for the loss of the trunk in transit from Ocean Grove to her home.

The jury gave her \$500.

## Women Need More Sleep.

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## An Indian Belle.

Miss Sophia Fisher, a half breed Comanche girl whose father was taken captive by the Indians when a lad of 9 years near Fort Belknap, Tex., will be a guest of Spock, chief of the Shawnee tribe, during the last Indian powwow and celebration at Collinsville, I. T.

This young woman speaks English without accent and is said to be the handsomest Indian woman in the southwest. Her hair is long and silken and her eyes are blue and sparkling. She is said to be a singer of unusual ability. Her father owns 2,500 acres of land under cultivation and is a breeder of blooded stock. Their home is about nine miles from Lawton, Okla., and is modern and richly furnished.

Miss Fisher plays several musical instruments, but prefers the piano. Besides being a musician she is passionately fond of horseback riding, and her friends say she can rope a wild steer more easily than any of the men about the place.

## The Wonderful American Girl.

We like poetry, we do, a whole lot. Whether it comes in the form of rhythmic verse or mellifluous prose it hits us in a tender place. That is why we feel good thrills running over us when we find the Oklahoma State Capital quoting some one as saying that "when God made the American girl He sent His angel messengers throughout all the star-strewn realms of space to gather all there was of beauty and brightness, of enchantment, of glamor. When these angels returned from their harvesting of beauty and threw down their glittering burden at His feet, He began, in the flames which flash and leap from the bosom's depth. Then glancing deep into His own bosom. He took of the love which gleamed there like some rare pearl beneath the wind-kissed waves of a summer sea, thrilled into the form He was fashioning, and all heaven and earth rejoiced, for

## He had wrought the American girl."

Yum, yum; also b'gosh.

## Leaves from Fashion's Notebook.

Fur trimmed hats will be in vogue to an extent not known for several years. In fact, fur, broadcloth and velvet will reign supreme, as separately and in various combinations.

The fashions, while beautiful, are on the sensible order, and the woman who has bewailed the delicate nature of the fashionable dress can now rejoice that durability has been added to beauty.

The distinctive things in millinery this year are the irregular brims and the irregular crowns. The newest is the tam, and it is very wide and very flat. The brim part extends almost to the edge of the crown, and as it does away with the necessity for further trimming.

The long cherished bridal wreath of leaves or flowers has given place to the hat, and the little Louis urbans which attendants now substitute the emblem of fidelity for the more gleaming and adulatory chaplet. Orange flowers of other flowers and foliage continue to impart the decorative touch to bridal headdresses, but they are arranged in tiera form.

One beautiful costume begins with the hat, for we must mention hats first this year. It is of purple velvet with a purple broadcloth, with coat of lavender tulle with beautiful chrysanthemum upon the waist. This costume is one of the handsomest calling gowns of fall.

For smart and almost universally becoming the little Louis urbans which are made up just now in silk and satin and in felt with silk or satin linings, and wide ribbon or velvet, or with some of the fluffy-made feathers which are being worn so much, later on, these will bear trimmings of fur, and the feathers will be changed to long wings.

Fashion dictates the adornment of the pet dogs, as well as the attire of its mistress and the latest edict is that the little animal shall match exactly the color of its owner's costume—particularly in the case of the dog's collar. Few smart women but own a pet dog and one observer declares that she can usually tell the character of a woman by her choice in dogs, whether Irish setter, pointer, pomeranian, dachshund, King Charles spaniel, etc.

Short coats of fur, made with a circular pelum, are wonderfully smart for slim figures, and the three quarter and two-third coats, with the French back line accentuated with graduated cloth bands, are also greatly in vogue. The fur cloths are almost as much in fashion's good books as the fur, and the real fur is being worn so much, later on, these will bear trimmings of fur, and the feathers will be changed to long wings.

## What Women Are Doing.

Miss Mary Reidsell, formerly of Grinnell, Conn., but at present of Nome, Alaska, has given that city \$100,000 for its gold fields. She made a fortune in the gold fields.

The very popular English novelist, Miss Matilda Lathin Edwards, lately celebrated her literary jubilee and her admirers gave her 200 guineas and a Chippendale silver inkstand.

Miss Rose Fitzgerald, daughter of the Mayor of Boston, has the finest private collection of autographs in Massachusetts, including in the collection are the signatures of eminent people from all parts of the world, including a number of foreign rulers.

Princess Clementine of Belgium, youngest daughter of Leopold, is credited with having the most wonderful collection of dolls in the world. Among them are specimens from Babylon, bone dolls from Greenland, a wooden one from Peru, a paper doll from India, Greek dolls with wardrobes, even doll houses, with furniture and dishes in them.

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Bradwell and his daughter, who are the present editors, keeping the name of the wife and mother departed fourteen years ago, always at the fore in the journal she founded. Mrs. Bradwell was a pioneer of women in the legal profession, and as a legal editor her record is unparalleled.

On the occasion of the distribution of prizes to pupils in some girls' schools in London, which was presided over by the Princess Louise, duchess of Argyll, who personally gave the prizes, Sir William Bonfield made the statement that there were now 150 girls in thirty-three schools. During 1906 thirty-two scholarships were won by them in colleges of university rank; 250 old pupils were studying at university colleges, and seventy-five gained university degrees in honors. The salaries of teachers in thirty-three schools amounted to over \$200,000 annually.

Another pleasing census report is that relating to women prisoners in 138 penitentiaries formed 8.9 per cent. of the prisoners in the United States; in 1905 7.5 per cent. and in 1904 6.4 per cent. The decrease is general throughout the country. The Woman's Journal comments on this fact: "An article has lately been circulated by its opponents of equal rights, asserting that the larger education and emancipation of women in modern times have damaged the female character. Statistics do not bear out the claim."

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# Evening Gown Extravagance

THE EVENING gowns in the collection which offered inspiration for the sketches and description deserve a chapter all their own, and yet it is a difficult matter to give through words of even through black and white sketches any adequate idea of such evening frocks as were chosen for this opening from the models of the makers most noted for creations of this class.

Douillet, Laperrier, Deer, Callot Soures, Worth, Doucet, Drecol, Max Meyer, Bernard, Taverrier and other artists as famous contributors to the assortment, and the amount of money represented by those airy, perishable confections was surprising even to a student of the modes who had ceased to marvel at the rapidly increasing extravagance of woman's dress.

Old world coquettes wore costumes of extravagant cost, but they went attired in rich brocades. Despite their elaboration they do not necessarily jume at the eye. "Eight hundred dollars! Well, I can't see it," exclaimed a conspicuous woman as she examined a blue mezzetinette of simple, graceful lines, but embroidered almost from throat to hem in self-tone and relieved here and there by silver shimmer. But if she should attempt to duplicate the hand embroidery upon that model her eyes would doubtless be opened. The cost of hand work, even in Paris, rises steadily, and while the great dressmakers do not charge exorbitant sums for the crevices of their gowns, they pay high prices for truly skilled labor as is necessary to the success of their models and the reputation of their establishments.

Tulle, net, chiffon and silk mousseline are the materials most often chosen for the modish evening frock, although exquisite satins are evolved in the sheer supple satins, silks of various shades and materials of the voile and marquisette classes. The satins and satin finished silks are perhaps the most practical of the materials used for the purpose and adapt themselves perfectly to the prescribed lines, clinging, falling in the softest and straightest of folds, yet having body enough not to demand complicated foundations of silk and chiffon.

A satin evening frock of this type, slightly short of waist, with one of the new skirts falling straight and limp to the ground, a softly draped bodice, corsage relief or tucker of net or lace and a wealth of self-toned embroidery on bodice and skirt bottoms is as lovely a thing as one could wish to wear and will give excellent service and clean admirably again and again, but the initial cost is great.

The French makers have sent over such evening gowns and house gowns in great numbers and in the loveliest of shades, the gold and cream and marie and apricot yellow, the modish blues, amethyst, blue, lapis, blue lavande, etc., the pinks and blues and greens and grays.

The fancy for evening gowns of dark hues endures, and dark grays, violets, purples, greens and blues are all made up for evening wear, being usually in sheer skirt and blouses as lovely a thing as one could wish to wear and will give excellent service and clean admirably again and again, but the initial cost is great.

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THREE PAQUIN COSTUMES SHOWING COATS. THE NEW SKIRT WITH CONTRASTING COATS.

a dark evening gown in wine drage chiffon with self-color velvet bodice, the border taking the form of a floral design woven into the chiffon.

A tucker of silver flat net embroidered in two shades of wine red lights the bodice and a broad panel of this embroidered net runs down each side of the frock from armhole to hem. The short sleeves are of draped chiffon over a close fitting little sleeve of embroidered net and there is a tiny neck and sleeve finish of white tulle.

Of Deer's silver shawl model something was said last week, but the sketch of it on this page may give a more definite idea of the manner in which the little crystal bugles are applied to the white tulle and of the disposition of the heavy crystal and white Rose embroidery done on silver gauze. This is perhaps the handsomest of the evening gowns exhibited at the opening, but there were others as lovely in their own way, a white tulle from Laperrier, for example, whose whole skirt was embroidered lightly in a delicate design of blue and pink and green and blue, while some of the same embroidery and soft scarf of blue satin trimmed the bodice.

Amber of gold lined chiffon, or other sheer stuff, trimmed in gold color net embroidered in gold is a favorite idea for the evening frock, and often the embroidery is in a highly lustrous silk giving almost the effect of metallic gold rather than in the gold thread. Much silver and gold is used, but seldom in barbaric guise, the duller metallic tones being preferred and the blue, green or cobweb lace, gold nets or

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IS an excellent model for well developed figures. Its closely stitched front subtles abdominal prominences and rounds the figure into graceful lines. Made of white imported coutil. Trimmed across top with lace and ribbon. Hose supporters at front and sides. Sizes 19 to 35. Price \$2.03

**ERECT FORM 720**  
IS a corset for average figures. Has medium bust and long hip. Made of white and drab coutil. Hose supporters at front and sides. Trimmed across top with lace and ribbon. Sizes 15 to 30. Price \$1.03

**NUFORM 403**  
WILL fit any slender or average figure. Long above the waist which it defines very distinctly, showing a perfectly straight line down the front of the figure. Made of white and drab coutil. Trimmed with lace and ribbon. Hose supporters front and sides. Sizes 18 to 30. Price \$1.00

**NUFORM 447**  
FOR well developed figures. Is a reverse gore model. The gore lines run backwards, a construction which restrains upward development below the back. Medium high bust, long hips and extra long back. Made of an excellent quality of white coutil, elaborately trimmed with lace and ribbon. Hose supporters front and sides. Sizes 19 to 30. Price \$3.00

**NUFORM 738**  
IS an excellent model for average figures. Constructed sectionally, making the garment fit at all points, accentuating the slenderness of the waist line. Bust moderately high, hips rather long. Made of an imported coutil in white only. Trimmed with lace and ribbon. Hose supporters front and sides. Sizes 18 to 30. Price \$2.00

**NUFORM 406**  
IS a splendid corset for medium figures, pleasingly free from the bulky effect common to previous models of this type. Medium high bust and deep hip ending in an unbound apron extension. Made of white and drab coutil. Hose supporters front and sides. Trimmed with lace and ribbon. Sizes 19 to 30. Price \$1.50

**The W. B. Reduco Corset**  
IS a boon for large women—the ideal garment for even-developed figures requiring special restraint. It not only restrains the tendency to over-fatness, but a moulds the over-developed proportions into those pleasing, graceful outlines, hitherto thought to be attainable only by slender figures. The particular feature of this model is the apron over the abdomen and hips, boned in such a manner as to give the wearer absolute freedom of movement.

**Reduco Style 750 for tall well-developed figures.** Made of a durable coutil in white or drab. Hose supporters front and sides. Sizes 22 to 36. Price, \$3.

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