

Geography as a Social Asset

Better for Conversation Than Jewels or French, or Books or Looks.

By GABBY DETAYLS.

What is a social asset? Poise, yes. Knowledge of music, dancing, bridge, golf, riding, motor driving, the late books, looks—yes all are of value in appraising one's social worth.

We send our girls off to boarding school, we take costly trips, we read rapidly the season's output of fiction, in an effort to keep up with the conversation of our brilliant friends.

If Gabby were to give her readers one tip on how to build up good conversation, she would say "Study geography." Don't sound rec-n-bul we know, but consider.

You who have studied French in college for three or four years: How many times in legitimate conversation do you draw upon your knowledge of French? Seldom.

But find if you can, any dinner party, any evening of conversation anywhere, be it at a dance, card party or even prayer meeting, where geography does not come up in one way or another as a topic for discussion.

"Where is Oberammergau?" The question is being asked almost daily now that the Passion Play is to be given this year.

"Is the Dead Sea still living?" some one asked the other night. "Tonight's paper said something about the Isle of Martinique. Where is it?" was another question Gabby heard in polite society this week.

"Why did Ratchiff say 'Hi-ma-laya' when the ship was teaching 'Hi-ma-laya' in the schools?"

"Do you go through Santa Fe on your way to the Pacific coast?" "What station is the junction point for Glacier National park?"

"What is the best road to take in driving from St. Louis to Sioux City?" These are only a few of the geographic questions, local, national and international, Gabby has heard in the past week or two.

Stop, look and listen, and you will begin to appreciate how important a part geography plays in the ordinary conversation. Let it be a "word to the wise."

Get an accurate, working knowledge of the subject, either by travel or book study and you will find yourself "at home" in any group.

This truth was forced upon Gabby's attention in a striking way one evening recently when a small group was visiting "over the teacups."

There was nothing to do but talk. No one was well acquainted with anyone else; all were sizing the others up, and everyone was on his conversational tip-toes.

Except a calm, staid, middle-aged man, he was making no effort whatever. Gabby soon noticed that in spite of his nonchalance, this man was brought into the conversation at almost every turn.

Why? All because he had a clear knowledge of the geography of our land and others. He was the only member of the crowd who was making no effort to shine.

Yet he was scintillating more brilliantly than any one else, all because he knew something definite about distances, altitudes, rivers, steamship lines, Biblical places.

Verily, good enunciation and a wide knowledge of geography would establish one as a conversationalist par excellence and such person would be the envy of kings.

THE father of a flourishing young family of four was recently the victim of a hoax, originated, Gabby regrets to say, by none other than his wife.

The man in question was away on a hunting trip, and wives are proverbially opposed to hunting trips, which they had something to do with it. At any rate, he was more than astounded to receive in camp one of the conventional "stork cards" announcing the arrival of a "little stranger in our home."

weight, hair, etc., all neatly filled out. "It was both surprised and pleased, though slightly more surprised than pleased.

The mystery was not unraveled until he returned in much agitation to his own fireside, when a placid wife explained to him that she had taken as a cook a young married woman with a 2-months-old baby.

There was indeed a little stranger in the home, and he presently lifted up his voice and wept, but the relieved husband didn't even mind that.

Musical Tea for Benefit Ralston Public Library

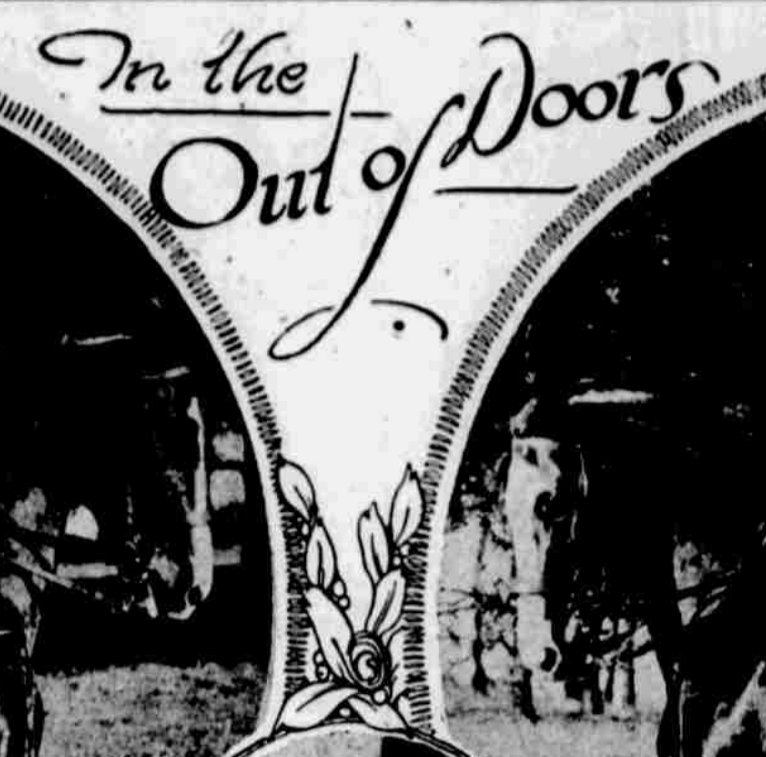


Walter Head

Two lovers of horses and of horseback riding, who are most regular in their devotion to the sport, are Walter Head and his daughter, Miss Vernelle Head.

Ward Burgess often accompanies them, and the horse which Miss Head best rides, in the picture above, was the gift of Mr. Burgess. His name is Marvin, and he is of thoroughbred stock, and has already been a prize winner.

Miss Head is an excellent horsewoman and has ridden since she was a small girl. At Rosemary Hall she had her own horse, and used to ride every year for the Vanderbilt cup, which was offered annually to the Rosemary girls by Mr. Vanderbilt.



Mrs Charles C. Allison

Doodles II is the impressive name of the handsome blue gray angora cat, which Mrs. Charles Allison is holding in her lap. Doodles is only a year old, but his color and markings, and especially his beautiful tail, make him a king in catdom.

He was born on the Allison country place near Calhoun and was a present from Mr. Allison to Mrs. Allison before their marriage.



Miss Vernelle Head

GIFTS I would have given thee jewels exquisite—Bright sapphires, ropes of pearl coiled serpentine—And shimmering silks, diaphanous and fine, And furs—rich sables for an empress fit.

Beloved Nebraska Mother



Mrs Reavis

To look back over 76 years spent largely in a pioneer country, mother of four children, 13 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, and be able to say, "Life has been good," is eloquent evidence that the life itself has been one of service and love.

These were the words a few days ago of Mrs. Annie M. Reavis, widow of the late Judge Isham Reavis, who is spending the winter here with her son, Burt I. Reavis, and family.

Just at the entrance of her home in Falls City there stands an old tree which she planted, a mere twig, the Sabbath before she was married; it has grown and spread itself until it has become one of the beauty spots hereabout.

The grandchildren include Mrs. Isham and Burt, jr., children of Mr. and Mrs. Burt Reavis; Frank, jr., and John Wallace, sons of Mr. and Mrs. C. Frank Reavis; David, jr., Grace Anna, Nellie and Joe, children of Mr. and Mrs. David Reavis; Frank, Anna Margaret, and Elizabeth W., children of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Gist, whose son, Isham Reavis Gist, died in service during the world war.

Mrs. John Martin and Miss Annie M. Darrington, came to Nebraska, fresh from college.

Social Settlement to Hear Program of Music

The following program will be given for the children at the Social Settlement house this afternoon at 3 o'clock: Piano solos, Mary Alice Kirley, Cora Laverty and Jean Laverty; concert solos, Paul Swohoda, accompanied by Mrs. A. F. Leermakers; violin selections, Bernard Hanigher, accompanied by Mrs. J. E. Brill; story telling, Mrs. John W. Towle.

Psychology Course Opens

Prof. Walter N. Halsey of the University of Omaha will give the first of a series of 10 lectures on "Psychology and the Day's Work," by Edgar James Swift, Monday afternoon, 2 o'clock, at the Y. W. C. A. auditorium, under the auspices of the day chautauqua circles.

Visit Former Home



Miss Lenore Norton

Miss Lenore Norton and brother, Matthew, accompanied by Miss Theresa Flanagan, sailed yesterday for the Baltic for a three months' visit with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Norton of Ballygar, Ireland.

Parties for Returned Bride and Groom

Friends of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Shirley, who were married about six weeks ago very quietly, are taking this opportunity to entertain for the young couple since they had no chance to do so at the time of the wedding.

The April Brides Choose Church Weddings

April brides and church weddings are synonymous this spring. April, most capricious of all months, is easily the favorite with the season's engaged couples, who, with optimism as dauntless as the crocuses and pussy willows are counting on April's smiles and not her showers.

Lyman Bryson to Return

Lyman Bryson, a former resident of Omaha, who has for the past two years been head of the Junior Red Cross in Europe, is expected to sail shortly for New York, and will arrive in Omaha sometime next month.

Aloha Camp Head Will Spend Next Week End Here

Mrs. F. L. Gulick of Brookline, Mass., will arrive March 24 to spend the week-end with Miss Helen Smalls. Mrs. Gulick is making a tour of the larger cities in the interests of Camp Aloha, the famous girls' camp at Vermont, which is managed by Mr. and Mrs. Gulick.

Society Slow in Healing Breaches

An interesting event of last week was the first "at home" of Mrs. Karl Lang, wife of the charge d'affaires of Germany, who had a reception in the repaired and redecored German embassy which has not been open for social affairs since the ignominious departure of the former ambassador and Countess Von Bernstorff.

New Postmaster Arrives

The new postmaster general and Mrs. Hubert Work are established in the same apartment occupied by former Postmaster General Hays, at Wardman Park Inn. Mrs. Work was formerly presented to the cabinet hostesses in her new role last Saturday by Mrs. Wallace, wife of the secretary of agriculture, who had the other cabinet hostesses to meet her at luncheon.

Society Slow in Healing Breaches

The announcement of the engagement of Secretary Hughes' daughter Catherine to Chauncey L. Waddell of New York came as something of a surprise to society. Miss Hughes is the leading "cabinet girl" and is not plucked into society affairs as a general rule. She is anything but the butterfly type. She is a graduate of Wellesley, her mother's alma mater, class of 1920, and previous to that she graduated from the National Cathedral school in Washington when her father was on the supreme court bench.

Beloved Nebraska Mother

Commander Booth of the Salvation Army will deliver her lecture, "The World's Greatest Romance," in the grand theater at 3 Sunday afternoon, 2 o'clock. Her topic will deal with the numerous celebrities she numbers among her intimate friends in the realms of society, literature, science and art.

Consummate Artist

Mme. Matzenauer will be greeted by an audience of thousands, the advance sale would indicate, when she steps on the platform at the Auditorium Friday evening. Called by many the world's greatest contralto, she has just been re-engaged for several years to sing leading roles with the Metropolitan opera company.

Female Seminary at Elmira

Perhaps it was the atmosphere of that section of New York that made Mrs. Reavis a believer in "equal rights." She never fails to cast her ballot on election day and has even had the pleasure of voting to send her own son to congress.

Turn to Page Three, Column Three

World Noted Women Come

Of Historic Note—Four Distinguished Women Here in One Week.

Four of the world's distinguished women will be in Omaha this week, Miss Anne Morgan in the interest of devastated France, Lady Margot Asquith, lecturing in the political field, Margaret Matzenauer, whose peer as a contralto singer cannot be named, and Evangeline Booth on her Christian rounds.

These women will be the center of attention while they are in the city. It is doubtful if at any time in the history of Omaha so many noted women have appeared here before public audiences.

Miss Morgan, daughter of the late J. Pierpont Morgan, will speak this afternoon at 4 o'clock at the Fontenelle ballroom in the interest of the American committee for devastated France. The lecture is open and free to the public.

Miss Morgan remarked that it seemed strange that, while Germany was complaining about reparations and voluntarily making herself bankrupt on paper, the German people were paying practically no taxes and had rebuilt their merchant marine to two-thirds of its prewar strength, while France had been unable to finish two ships she had begun before the war.

She thought that France had been called upon to give up entirely too much in the various conferences.

Frank, Fearless, Informed. Lady Asquith, wife of the former prime minister of England, is one of the most conversational speakers of the day.

She is frank, fearless, active-minded and informed. Mrs. Asquith has been a leading figure among the women of the world since she took the leading part in the organization known as "The Souls" in England.

Leaders of London society are members of the organization. According to word received here, Mrs. Asquith spoke to a capacity house in Buffalo Wednesday night.

Her engagement here is Thursday afternoon, 4 p. m., Brandeis theater on the subject, "People, Politics and Events." Her topic will deal with the numerous celebrities she numbers among her intimate friends in the realms of society, literature, science and art.

Consummate Artist. Mme. Matzenauer will be greeted by an audience of thousands, the advance sale would indicate, when she steps on the platform at the Auditorium Friday evening.

Called by many the world's greatest contralto, she has just been re-engaged for several years to sing leading roles with the Metropolitan opera company.

She is not only an opera star, but also the most eminent recital artist on the concert stage today. Of her appearance here and every recital, James H. Rogers said in part: "She sang . . . with consummate art in modulated tone and rounded phrase, and moreover with a reticence in respect of volume that bespoke surpassing control of her amazing organ and every resource. As we have already indicated, Mme. Matzenauer won a triumphant success."

Commander Booth of the Salvation Army will deliver her lecture, "The World's Greatest Romance," in the grand theater at 3 Sunday afternoon, 2 o'clock.

Her topic will deal with the numerous celebrities she numbers among her intimate friends in the realms of society, literature, science and art.

Perhaps it was the atmosphere of that section of New York that made Mrs. Reavis a believer in "equal rights." She never fails to cast her ballot on election day and has even had the pleasure of voting to send her own son to congress.

As a visitor to Omaha, Mrs. Reavis is not cast in a new role. She came here with her husband many times in an earlier day to attend federal court. She remembers this city when it had no pavement and no churches. She remembers it when the territorial school stood where Central High school is now located, and later, when the Millard and the Paxton were hotels of fashion and the Boyd theater a place of splendor.

She recalls, too, the annual excursions for salt to the present site of Lincoln. Her father and mother were born and married in England, coming to this country in 1842 and to the west in 1857. The story of her mother's life in Nebraska is the thrilling drama of the stirring pioneer and war days. Many a night, carrying food and drink, she groped through the darkness from the house to "the Squire's barn," which was an underground station for escaping slaves.

Of her, Morton's "History of Nebraska" says: "Though the cabins were few and far between, no night was too dark for her to go across the prairie to administer to the sick, carrying her own stock of medicine and an old-fashioned walking stick for her protection." She was a delicate, refined woman, fitted only in spirit for the rugged life of the day.

It was she who organized the first Sunday school in Falls City. Mrs. Reavis herself taught a Sunday school class in the Methodist church of Falls City for many years. She is still active in the church, being a member of the official board.

At the age of 17, Mrs. Reavis, then Miss Annie M. Darrington, came to Nebraska, fresh from college.

Turn to Page Three, Column Six